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Skip front page, Bunye tells newspaper readers

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

ADVICE to newspaper readers: Skip the front page and go straight to the inside pages, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye

SKIP/ A6

SAYANG, HINDI MABABASA NI SEC. BUNYE ITO!

Garcia took ₱44M to US

Wife, 2 sons helped move money, say documents

By Fe Zamora and Philip C. Tubeza

AT LEAST $785,630—or P43,995,280 million—was transferred to the United States by Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia and his family in the past 11 years, according to documents from an investigation conducted by the Ombudsman.

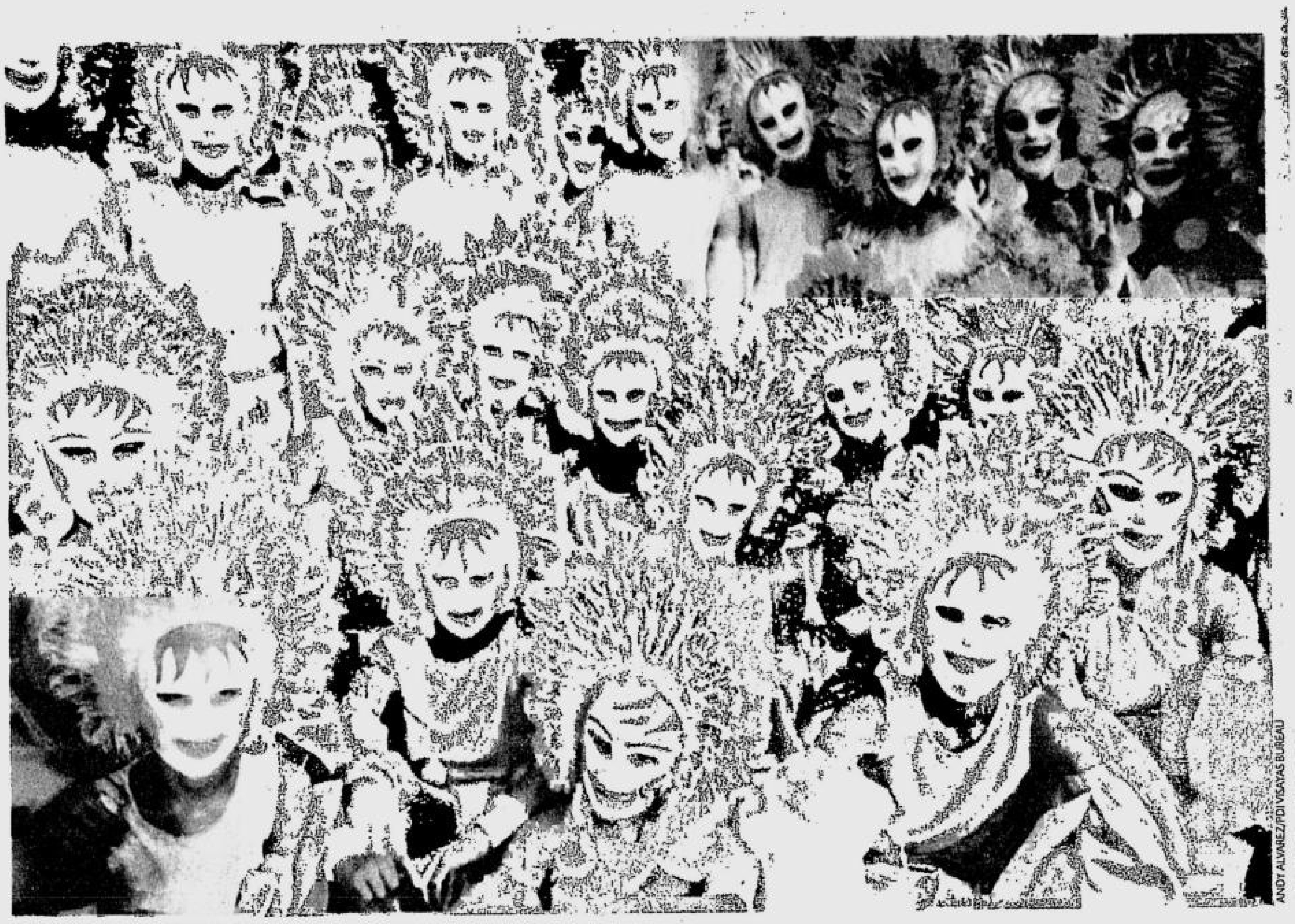
Citing US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) records, the Ombudsman report said the money was carried by Garcia, his wife Clarita and two of their sons, Ian Carl and Juan Paolo, during six trips to the United States between 1993 and 2004.

The last transaction, involving $308,000, was brought from the Philippines and deposited in the Citibank branch at One Park Avenue, New York, on Jan. 15, 2004, the report said.

The documents also showed that:

- A day earlier, on Jan. 14, Clarita Garcia arrived in San Francisco and declared to the US Customs and Border Patrol that she had $204,230 in her possession.
- On May 10, 2003, she declared she was carrying $48,000.
- On Dec. 17, 2003, she declared that she was carrying $100,000.
- Two days later, on Dec. 19, Ian Carl and Juan Paolo Garcia were held by Customs and Border Patrol after they failed to declare that they were traveling with

GARCIA/ A8



ANDY ALVAREZ/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU

PUT ON A HAPPY FACE

The MassKara festival has earned for Bacolod the title "City of Smiles" and placed it on the world tourist map of festivals. The three-day festival featuring gyrating masked dancers in the streets began when Negros Occidental's sugar industry began to bottom out in the 1980s but the province refused to be dragged down. Instead, it adopted a smiling paper mache mask as a symbol of its resilience and courage to prevail. On its first day Friday, high schools competed for best in dance, costume and mask awards.

Too old to reenact return of MacArthur

Rites for veterans' valor mark 60th year of Leyte landing

By TJ Burgonio

THEY WERE not much more than boys, then.

Now, mostly in their 80s, they will return to the same beaches on Leyte island that they stormed 60 years ago to begin the US-led Allied liberation of the Philippines.

Four hours after the assault began on the morning of Oct. 20, 1944, Gen. Douglas MacArthur waded ashore to fulfill his promise. "I have returned," he declared. "By the grace of Almighty God, our forces stand again on Philippine soil."

Some of the 200,000 troops MacArthur commanded in that invasion will make a nostalgic journey back to Leyte on Wednesday to commemorate the Allied landings that led to the reconquest of the country from Japanese rule.

"We wanted to have the veterans participate in the reenactment, but taking into consideration their age, physical limitations, it will be very difficult for them to get off the barge, land and wade to the shore," said Foreign Affairs director Adelio Angelito Cruz, a member of the ad hoc committee in charge of preparations for the celebration.

In the originally planned reenactment, the veterans would come in on a barge and then wade ashore.

Instead, they will be standing on the sidelines and be regaled by a tableau or a stage presentation by local talents reenacting the dramatic events of the war, from the historic 1944 landings to the country's liberation the following year.

MacArthur's landing on Leyte, together with then war-time Philippine President Sergio Osmeña, set the stage for the Battle of Leyte Gulf, described by historians as the largest air-sea battle recorded in history, at least up to that time.

The run-up to the battle, which involved hundreds of warships, saw the use by the Japanese for the first time of the kamikaze suicide dive bombers, historians said.

The tableau will focus on the gallantry of the soldiers and the guerrillas who relentlessly fought the Japanese Imperial Army.

"We will focus on the Filipino

TOO OLD/ A8

GIs probed for refusing 'suicide missions' in Iraq

WASHINGTON—The US Army is investigating 19 members of a supply platoon serving in Iraq who refused orders to go on a fuel convoy earlier this week, where explosive devices had killed dozens of soldiers, defense officials said on Friday.

Several soldiers called it a "suicide mission," relatives said.

The Clarion-Ledger, a newspaper in Jackson, Mississippi, quoted relatives of the soldiers as saying they had been arrested for refusing a "suicide" fuel delivery mission, were read their rights and were moved from a military barracks into tents.

However, the army said the soldiers had neither been arrested nor detained.

It was unclear if this was the first time a sizable group of soldiers in Iraq had refused to carry out orders, and the military is playing down the mutiny as an isolated incident. But the small rebellion suggested that problems lingered with outfitting soldiers with adequate equipment in an increasingly dangerous country.

A statement issued by the US military in Iraq called it an "isolated incident." Family members of some of the troops told a US

GIs PROBED/ A6

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

BIRTHDAY boy Renz Miguel Mauricio, 6, learns to cope in a sighted world.

In dark world of blind kids, seeing is believing

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

IT TAKES roughly two hours for this six-year-old child and his mother to get to his school in Cubao, Quezon City, from their modest home in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

But it is always a trip worth taking. Renz Miguel Mauricio, who is blind, is learning his alphabet, reading a few words, making many friends, and gaining confidence that he would get a college degree someday.

It was not so long ago that Renz's parents felt that the world was crashing around them.

The second of three children, Renz was born prematurely. Doctors managed to keep him alive, but overexposure to oxygen damaged his retina, leaving him completely blind at the age of three months.

The Mauricios were at a loss on how to care for their handicapped child—until Renz's doctor at St. Luke's Hospital handed his mother Evelyn the phone number of Resources for the Blind Inc. (RBI).

It turned out to be a ray of hope.

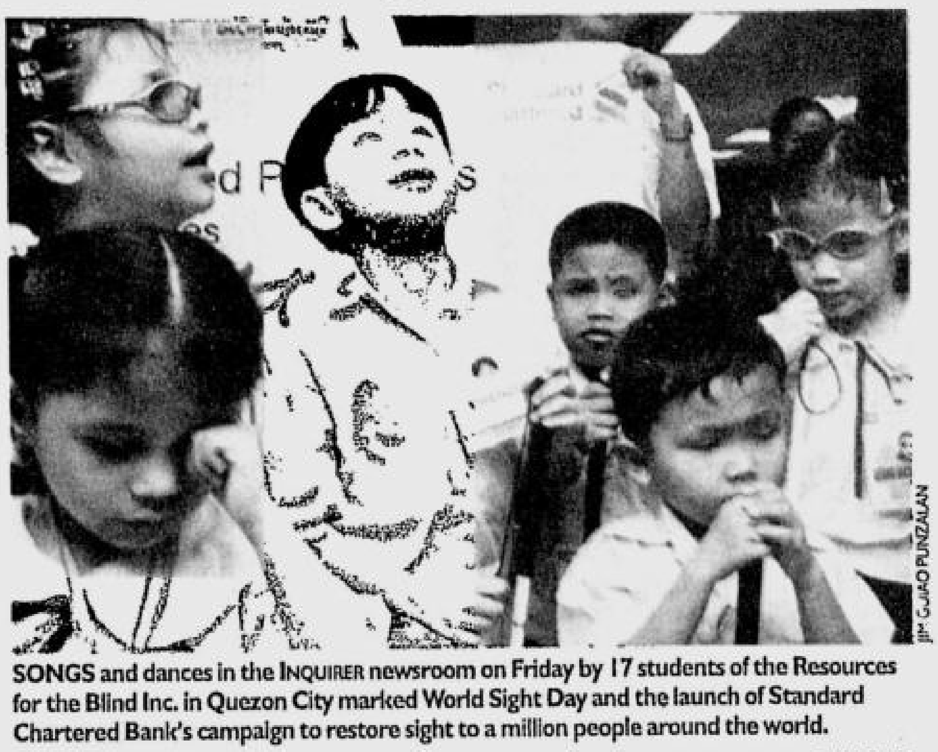
Renz is one of over 200 students who are learning to cope in the sighted world on RBI campuses in Quezon City and Cebu City.

He and 16 others from RBI-Cubao Kindergarten I and II visited the INQUIRER office on Friday, his birthday. They sang some songs and performed a dance number to celebrate World Sight Day and mark the launch of the next phase of Standard Chartered Bank's "Seeing is Believing" campaign.

The global program is aimed at restoring sight to one million people in countries around the world, including the Philippines, where an estimated 100 children lose their sight every week because of poor nutrition, measles and premature birth.

"We have set ourselves a big target but

IN DARK/ A6



JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

SONGS and dances in the INQUIRER newsroom on Friday by 17 students of the Resources for the Blind Inc. in Quezon City marked World Sight Day and the launch of Standard Chartered Bank's campaign to restore sight to a million people around the world.

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/10/17/04

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

7 Boy Scouts drown during jamboree

ILOILO CITY—Tragedy struck the last day of a Boy Scout jamboree yesterday when seven boys, aged 11 to 17, drowned while swimming in the beach in San Joaquin town, 53 km south of this city.

A report from the regional police office here identified the victims as 14-year-olds Neridyn Barcenas, Jerril Semic, Jeorge Selibio Jr. and Philip Sidney Mucas, and 17-year-old Alberto Corcedo. All five boys were students at Escalantera High School in San Joaquin and residents of the town.

The two other victims, residents of Cabatuan town in Iloilo, were identified as John Francis Marcon, 12, a student at Tomas Confesor Elementary School, and Christian Monueva, 11, a student at Doroteo Lujan Elementary School.

The seven died on the way to the Guimbal District Hospital where they were rushed.

At least three other boys who were part of the group that went swimming survived.

The boys were among some 4,000 scouts attending a provincial jamboree in San Joaquin, said police chief George Alino.

In a report to national police headquarters in Manila, Alino said the victims, along with several other scouts and two scoutmasters, apparently ignored warnings by locals not to swim in the area, some 40 meters from the shore, because of treacherous underwater currents.

The San Joaquin police chief, SP04 Romeo Villasis, said the victims were swimming at about 8:50 a.m. when they were swept away by strong currents. The bottom of Southern Iloilo's beaches are known to be very steep.

Denmark Sembrano, 15, one of those who survived, said in a radio interview that the boys were suddenly swept away by strong waves. He said he saw five of his companions crying for help but they were too far away from him.

A statement by the Iloilo council of the BSP said the victims were among a group of scouts from San Joaquin and Cabatuan who asked for permission to take a swim before joining the jamboree activities at the San Joaquin Sports Stadium.

They were accompanied by Felix Cata, a teacher at Inaca Elementary School in Cabatuan, and Domingo Ylyaron, a scoutmaster from Escalentara National High School.

At about 9 a.m., Cata called for help as he noticed eight of the boys thrashing about in the water. Residents and other scouts pulled the victims onto boats before they were taken ashore where rescuers tried to resuscitate them.

The jamboree organizers said the tragedy was "one truly sad moment for the entire (BSP Iloilo) council and the BSP." They promised to provide financial support to the families of the victims.

BSP Secretary General J. Rizal C. Pangilinan has ordered an immediate investigation and has directed the BSP national and Western Visayas regional offices to facilitate the release of financial assistance to the families of the victims.

Adolf Jaen, chair of the BSP Iloilo council, said the national BSP council would give P12,500 for each of the victims while the local council would give P5,000.

San Joaquin Mayor Ninfa Garin said she will also be giving financial assistance to the victims' families. Garin also called for an investigation into the possible liability of the organizers.

The jamboree, which began on Oct. 13 and ended yesterday, drew some 4,068 participants from the Western Visayas region. The largest number of participants came from Iloilo. *Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau and AP*

Solons push own reform agenda

By Michael Lim Ubac

A BI-PARTISAN group of senators is promoting a legislative reform program, called the People's Agenda, that would purportedly overhaul policies of the Arroyo government.

The proposed agenda, to be finalized during a seminar workshop on Oct. 22 to 23, will address the two most pressing issues facing the administration—the Armed Forces scandal and the fiscal crisis.

Opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara said the reform agenda would include programs that would "raise the political capacity of the Philippines and increase the credibility of the government and the efficiency of the civil service."

A special committee composed of Angara and Senators Francis Pangilinan, Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and Richard Gordon has come up with a blueprint for the proposed structural changes in government.

The special committee's proposed draft said "the problem itself may relate either to structure, procedure or funding," which would mean the changes may be carried out either through legislation or executive action.

The proposed work programs cover such areas as finance and taxation, social welfare, jobs and wealth creation, peace and order, and good governance.

The special committee suggested these topics as the initial batch of reforms in a People's Agenda that the Senate would push for the duration of the 13th Congress.

To fix the economy, senators want to address the tax-revenue efforts which had declined from a historic high of 19.29 percent of gross domestic product from 1994 to 1997 to only 15.43 percent from 1998 to 2003 by building up capital markets, establishing a credit-rating system and cleaning up the banking sector's nonperforming assets, among others.

As for jobs and wealth creation, the senators are for promoting projects in agriculture, rural infrastructure and agri-tourism because they generate the quickest results at the least cost.

The draft also calls for agricultural modernization (farming and fishing), reviving the mining industry (estimated value of between $800 billion and $1 trillion), nationwide reforestation, setting up of export tourism enclaves, modernizing the civil service and strengthening political parties.

To improve peace and order, the draft calls for an "honorable peace" accord with the separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front, "closure" in the Estrada and Marcos cases, and for government to address what it said were the root causes of the communist insurgency—mass poverty, lack of opportunity and inequalities in the social system.

The Senate would be asked to set a strict schedule for enacting every reform and institute a monitoring mechanism to ensure that the agenda is carried out.

"The fiscal and financial reforms should obviously have the highest priority. Slow progress on these reforms by Congress could weigh down still more on our country's already poor credit rating in global finance markets," the draft read.

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Aglipay urged to start lifestyle check in PNP

By Carlito Pablo

DON'T wait for what happened at Camp Aguinaldo to happen to Camp Crame, House leaders told Philippine National Police Director General Edgar Aglipay, whom they urged to start a lifestyle check program in the PNP.

House Majority Leader Rep. Prospero Nograles led other legislators in urging Aglipay to start probing the police force as it emerged that the Armed Forces had been caught flatfooted by the explosive revelations concerning corruption among a number of its generals.

Even as controversy roiled the AFP—triggered by the discovery of the unexplained wealth of former AFP comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia—various unnamed officers in the PNP had suggested that police generals and colonels were not that innocent, either.

"Despite their modest incomes, some police officials have been able to live in style, building lavish houses and buying luxury vehicles, the sources said.

The modus operandi for accumulating their ill-gotten wealth was similar to that obtaining in the Armed Forces, they said.

In a statement, the legislators said that Aglipay could ask for help from the Office of the Ombudsman and even the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission to conduct the lifestyle check on the country's top cops.

"The PNP leadership should not allow public distrust to also spread to the police institution by allowing an objective lifestyle check on its officers," Nograles said in a statement.

"People have become skeptical about the outcome of the military probe on suspended Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia," he said.

In the same statement, Rep. Edwin Uy (Lakas, Isabela) said that Aglipay has only a few months in office and must "act fast and do his best to cleanse the PNP of dishonest officers who have enriched themselves at the expense of the people."

Uy, chair of the committee on bases conversion, said that an anti-corruption campaign in the PNP will be a major contribution to the government's commitment to good governance.

A third lawmaker, Rep. Monico Puentevella (Lakas, Bacolod City), said that Aglipay would be wrong to outrightly deny that there was corruption at Camp Crame.

"The independent lifestyle checks and investigations of errant police officers will demonstrate the PNP leadership's seriousness and sincerity in instituting needed reforms in the organization," said Puentevella, chair of the committee on transportation and communications.

Nograles noted that there had been reports that as in the AFP, conversion—the turning of funds intended for supplies and projects into cash—was also being practiced in the PNP.

'Prayerful' Erap finds God's purpose in jail

By Armand N. Nocum

THE INTERVIEWER, a precocious sixth-grader, considered it an "answered prayer."

The interviewee, ousted President Joseph Estrada, did not disappoint. The disgraced leader, ostensibly in jail at his lavish vacation estate in Tanay, Rizal, was obliging with quote-worthy sentiments and advice.

During the interview that started at 10 a.m. and lasted until after lunch yesterday, Estrada told Keeshia Rose D. Wee Eng, a sixth-grade student at the Makati Gospel Christian Academy in Fort Bonifacio, that he now realized that God had a purpose for putting him in jail.

"God brought me here to be closer to Him and to be more prayerful. I now pray one hour a day when I [used to] do it for just five minutes when I was President," said Estrada, who had never been known to be deeply religious.

An Estrada aide who was at the interview said this was how Estrada answered a question from Keeshia on whether he prayed to God and how often.

Keeshia had written Justice Edilberto Sandoval, chair of the Sandiganbayan Special Division trying Estrada for plunder, last September asking for a 20-minute interview with Estrada.

She said the interview was for a school report. The request, earnestly prayed for, was granted.

"After their talk, the President (Estrada) turned to us, saying he believed that his prayers of getting vindicated and of being free will be granted one day," the aide said.

Asked whether he enjoyed his short-lived presidency, Estrada reportedly replied that he did and that he was thankful to God and the people for having made him President.

But he said he was also sad that he was ousted in 2001 before he was able to do everything that he had wanted to do for the people.

Asked whom he consulted when making decisions when he was President, Estrada replied: "I decided for the greater good of the greater number of people, not for my selfish end or that of my compadres."

Kieshia was accompanied by her mother Sheila Jay, sister Rochelle, cousin Mark Henry Go and teacher Maryann Papey.

She gave Estrada a Bible and a book titled "The Purpose-Driven Life."

Estrada, who is now said to be enjoying farming, brought Wee Eng to a vegetable farm on the estate and the two harvested some vegetables, including *okra* and *patola*. She was given some of the vegetables to take home.

Vegetables from the farm also was the fare at lunch by a man-made lagoon. The children were allowed to feed the fish in the lagoon.

Impressed by Keeshia's "knowledge about the government," Estrada advised her to study hard, saying that it was the best gift that she could get from her parents.

"My parents would tell me that always," said Estrada, who is a college dropout.

Sin stable, receives visitors

AILING retired Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin appeared to be in stable condition yesterday morning as he received several visitors, including President Macapagal-Arroyo.

In addition to the President, Sin also talked briefly with Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales, who paid his second visit.

"They (Ms Arroyo and Sin) talked for a while. She assured him of continued prayers for his health," Peachy Yamsuan, director of the archdiocese of Manila's communication office, said.

Yamsuan said the information about the visits was relayed to her by Fr. Rufino Sescon, Sin's secretary, and Bataan Bishop Soc Villegas, a protegé of the cardinal's.

Visitors have not been allowed to see Sin although several groups had gone to the hospital to pray for him.

Sin, 76, has been confined at the intensive care unit of the Cardinal Santos Memorial Medical Center since Monday after suffering a heart attack, his second.

Doctors were quoted as saying that he suffered from hypotension and subsequent congestive heart failure.

Yesterday, Yamsuan said reports indicated that Sin was in stable condition.

"(The cardinal) has even begun joking. Bishop Soc said the cardinal told his attending doctor that he'll find her a boyfriend and marry them," she said. *Martin P. Marfil*

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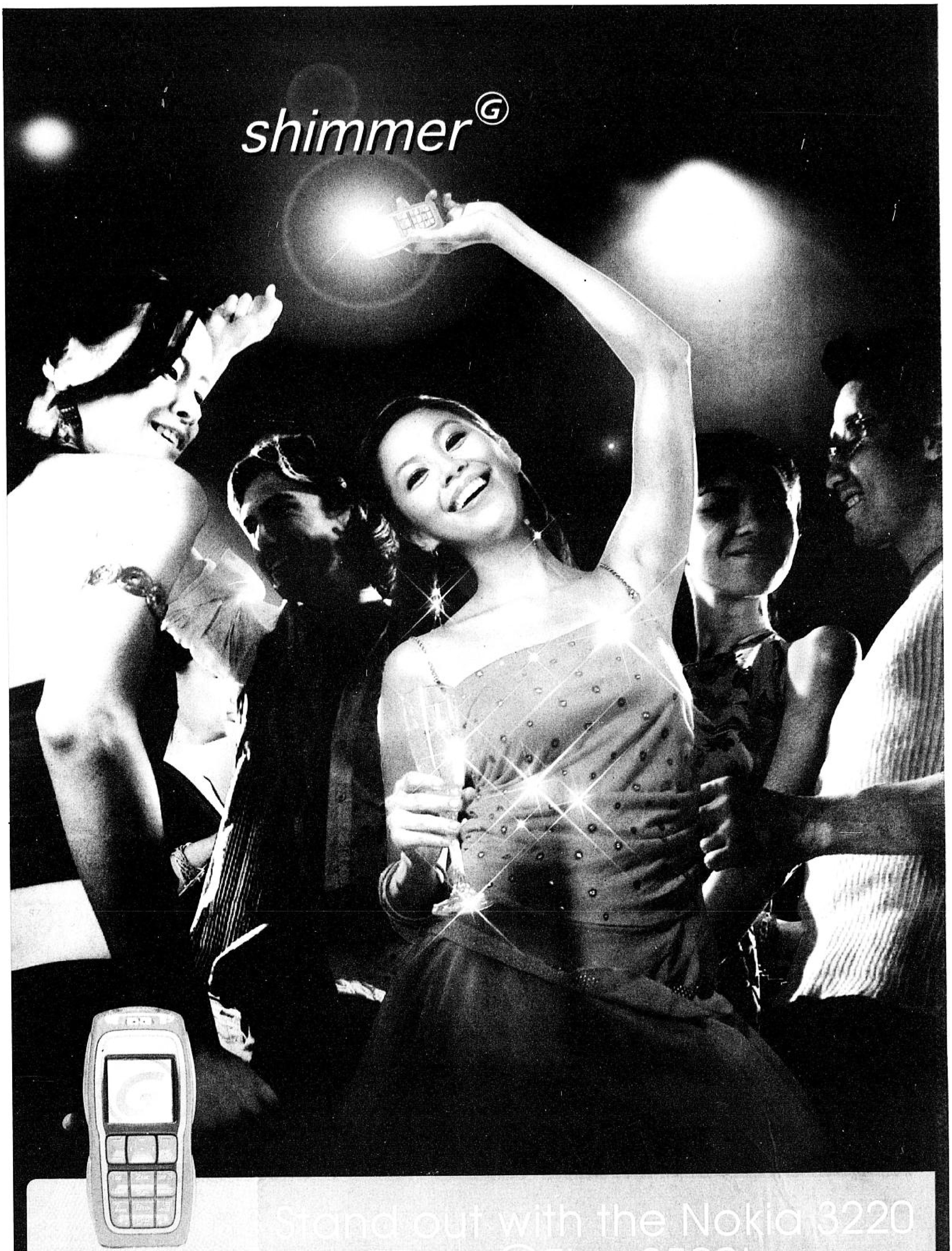

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Author of error-filled textbook sues whistle-blower for libel

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

PERHAPS it's just another error.

While the publisher, authors and evaluators of an error-ridden public school history textbook could go scot-free, ironically, the whistle-blower could face prosecution.

Antonio Calipjo Go, academic supervisor of Marian School, was sued for libel by the lead author of the second-year high school history text that Go said contained 431 errors.

Dr. Teofista Vivar, 75, a former Department of Education superintendent, filed a libel complaint even as the DepEd confirmed that her "Asya: Noon, Ngayon at sa Hinaharap," published by SD Publications, did contain errors.

The DepEd has also asked University of the Philippines history teachers to check her other book, "Kasaysayan ng Daigdig" for third year high school students, which Go claimed had more than 300 errors.

Go received a subpoena from the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office on Friday ordering him to appear in court on Oct. 28. He did not get a copy of Vivar's complaint.

At first, Go found the situation humorous.

"I'm the one who has grounds to sue for libel. But I won't do that out of respect for her (Vivar's) age," he said. "I'm not worried. All I have to do is bring the book."

In an open letter to the INQUIRER published Sept. 25, Vivar and her co-authors Evelina Viloria and Ruth Fuentes (the fourth author, Remedios Quiray, had passed away) said Go had fabricated the errors.

One less fee for OFWs

THE DEPARTMENT of Labor and Employment yesterday announced that a special hiring arrangement had been forged with Taiwan.

In a statement, Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas said the agreement would do away with placement fees for overseas Filipino workers wanting to work in Taiwan.

The agreement was part of a special hiring opportunity window opened by Taiwan for some 10,000 foreign workers, especially those from the Philippines and other Asian countries.

It was forged during Sto. Tomas' recent visit to Taiwan where she also discussed the need to protect Filipino workers from abusive employers.

"We hope the special hiring arrangement of the Philippines with Taiwan... will be emulated and will set a pattern for better OFW protection worldwide, especially among migrant-receiving countries in collaboration with the Philippines," she said.

Some 45,186 Filipinos went to Taiwan last year to work and another 23,029 were hired or re-hired between January and June this year. *Martin P Marfil*

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2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	68,700	31,767	22,632	18,149	15,917	14,437
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	85,700	35,120	25,020	20,065	17,597	15,961
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T	675,000	101,250	28,289	20,154	16,162	14,174	12,856
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas M/T	700,000	85,000	29,336	20,900	16,760	14,699	13,332
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel M/T*	740,000	111,000	31,013	22,094	17,718	15,539	14,094
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T	795,000	79,250	33,318	23,737	19,035	16,694	15,142
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	805,000	80,750	33,737	24,035	19,275	16,904	15,332
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	848,000	107,200	35,539	25,319	20,304	17,807	16,151
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	935,000	105,250	39,185	27,917	22,387	19,634	17,808
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	980,000	127,000	41,071	29,260	23,465	20,579	18,665
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T	1,180,000	87,000	48,511	34,561	27,715	24,307	22,254
2004 Outlander 2.4 Gas AWD A/T	1,280,000	77,000	53,643	38,217	30,648	26,879	24,379

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Model	SRP	DP	24	36	48	60	72
2004 Lancer 1.6 GL M/T	658,000	319,000	15,294	10,896	8,738	7,663	7,155
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLX M/T	698,000	319,000	16,224	11,559	9,269	8,129	7,590
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	341,000	17,619	12,552	10,066	8,828	8,243
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	389,000	19,478	13,877	11,128	9,760	9,113
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T**	675,000	337,500	15,701	11,186	8,970	7,867	7,123
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas M/T**	700,000	350,000	16,317	11,625	9,323	8,176	7,403
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel M/T*	740,000	337,000	17,200	12,254	9,827	8,618	8,047
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T	795,000	377,500	18,479	13,165	10,557	9,259	8,645
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	805,000	382,500	18,711	13,330	10,690	9,375	8,754
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T**	848,000	424,000	19,966	14,224	11,407	10,004	9,061
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	935,000	447,500	21,733	15,483	12,416	10,889	10,167
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T**	980,000	490,000	23,220	16,543	13,266	11,635	10,540
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T**	1,180,000	590,000	24,583***	17,310	13,889	12,181	11,114
2004 Outlander 2.4 Gas AWD A/T	1,280,000	535,000	29,752	21,196	16,998	14,908	13,919

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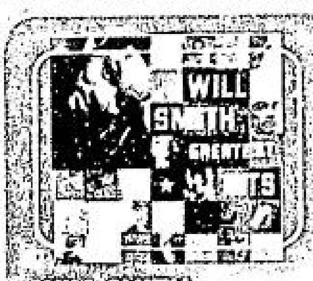
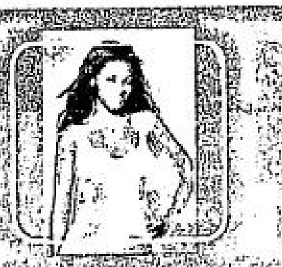


WILL SMITH

TITLE	RING ID
Gettin' Jiggy With It	101524
Men In Black	101525
Wild Wild West	101526



BEYONCE KNOWLES

TITLE	RING ID
Baby Boy	101466
Crazy In Love	101467
Me Myself And I	[illegible]

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RING ADD
101504

286

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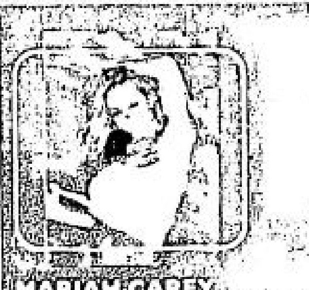
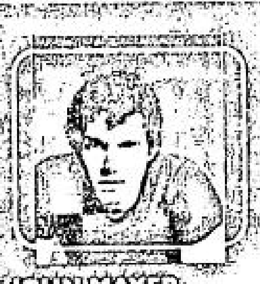
JENNIFER LOPEZ

TITLE	RING ID
I'm Real	101531
Jenny From The Block	101533
Let's Get Loud	101534



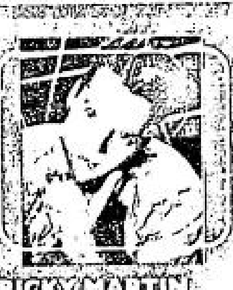
MARIAH CAREY

TITLE	RING ID
Always Be My Baby	101506
Hero	101507
My All	101510



JOHN MAYER

TITLE	RING ID
No Such Thing	101502
Why Georgia	101503
Your Body Is A Wonderland	101504



RICKY MARTIN

TITLE	RING ID
Livin' La Vida Loca	101513
Private Emotion	101515
She Bangs	101516

DESTINY'S CHILD

TITLE	RING ID
Bootylicious	101487
Independent Women	101489
Survivor	[illegible]

AUDIOSLAVE

TITLE	RING ID
Cochise	[illegible]
Like A Stone	[illegible]
Show Me How To Live	[illegible]

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ARTIST	TITLE	RING ID
Anastacia	I'm Outta Love	101459
Anastacia	One Day In Your Life	101460
Babyface	When Can I See You Again	101465
Celine Dion	Beauty And The Beast	101471
Celine Dion	My Heart Will Go On	101476
Celine Dion	The Power Of Love	101479
Cyndi Lauper	Girls Just Wanna Have Fun	101481
Cyndi Lauper	I Drove All Night	101482
Cyndi Lauper	Time After Time	101483
Cyndi Lauper	True Colors	101484
Darren Hayes	Insatiable	101485
Darren Hayes	Strange Relationship	101486
Good Charlotte	Girls & Boys	101492
Good Charlotte	Lifestyles Of The Rich And The Famous	101493
Jessica Simpson	In This Skin	101495
Jessica Simpson	Sweetest Sin	101496
Jessica Simpson	Take My Breath Away	101497
Kelly Rowland	Stole	101505
Savage Garden	The Animal Song	101517
Savage Garden	Truly Madly Deeply	101518
Simon & Garfunkel	Bridge Over Troubled Water	101519
Simon & Garfunkel	Mrs. Robinson	101521
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In dark world of blind kids, seeing is believing

From page A1

blindness is a global challenge that we can only combat if business and individuals work together," said Standard Chartered CEO Simon Morris.

RBI has been meeting the challenge of helping blind and visually impaired Filipinos since 1988.

Personal project

It began as a personal project of Dr. Arthur Lown, blind since childhood, to produce a braille version of the Filipino Bible.

Lown came to the Philippines in 1970 to head the Manila branch of the Summer Institute of Linguistics.

Learning of his interest in transcribing the Filipino Bible into braille, three Filipino pastors met with him in 1980 with the intention of helping turn the vision into reality.

The braille system makes use of raised dots, which are recognizable by touch. The tips of the fingers are moved across the dots from left to right, in the same manner that eyes scan a printed page.

This system, created in 1824, has enabled the blind to read like the sighted.

That first project to produce a Filipino Bible in braille eventually led to the formal setup of RBI in 1988.

Productive lives

Through the years, RBI has become much more than just a translator of books into braille.

Its vision is to help blind and visually impaired children live normal, happy and productive lives and reach their full potential.

Children at RBI, mostly from poor and lower middle class families, are taught to read in braille and to take care of themselves in preparation for integration into regular high schools.

Over 1,000 have graduated from RBI. Many have found gainful employment; others have set up their own businesses, such as hog-raising, rugmaking and running *sari-sari* stores.

Parents are also trained and counseled to help them care for their children better. Teachers from other schools, on the other hand, are taught skills in special education.

RBI maintains a trained staff of 30 specialists and about three teachers for every class of 17 students. Like Renz, many of these students lost their sight because of premature birth.

Other students with multiple disabilities are given extra attention.

Children are provided uniforms, learning materials and even walking sticks—all for free, thanks to donations from private individuals, foundations and corporations such as Standard Chartered Bank.

'Read a Braille'

The bank joined hands with RBI two years ago, and plans to extend the latter's work by funding the "Read a Braille" program.

The program aims to produce and circulate free braille textbook materials and educational activity sheets to over 200 schools where blind children and young adults are enrolled.

By joining hands with the private sector, RBI is confident that it can turn darkness into light for blind children.

GIs probed for refusing 'suicide missions' in Iraq

From page A1

newspaper that security for the fuel trucks was inadequate.

The military statement said 19 members of the 343rd Quartermaster Company, a unit that moves water and other supplies for American troops, did not report to formation to prepare for their assigned convoy mission on Wednesday morning.

It said the investigation would determine whether the military's strict code of conduct was violated.

Serious military offense

Refusal to obey orders, especially in a combat zone, is a serious military offense. But the statement stressed that "it is far too early in the investigation to speculate as to what happened, why it happened or any action that might be taken."

The Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Mississippi, reported on Friday that interviews with some family members indicated that soldiers from the unit, based in Tallil, refused to go on the mission because they felt they did not have an adequate armed escort and the vehicles were not in good shape.

"Initial indication is that the soldiers scheduled for the mission raised some valid concerns and the command is addressing them," the military statement from Iraq said, adding that some soldiers apparently expressed their concerns "in an inappropriate manner."

Civilian and military convoys in Iraq, where more than 1,000 US troops have been killed since the US-led invasion in March 2003, are frequent targets for roadside bombings and other ambushes.

Questioned

The commanding general of the 13th Corps support command quickly appointed the deputy commander to lead an investigation of the allegations, and troops were questioned at their headquarters in Tallil.

The Clarion-Ledger quoted Teresa Hill of Dothan, Alabama, who said her daughter Amber McClenny was among the soldiers detained as saying, "They knew there was a 99 percent chance they were going to get ambushed or fired at."

She said she was told the platoon's trucks could travel no faster than 40 miles (64 km) per hour.

Raise hell

"This is a real, real, big emergency," McClenny said in her message. "I need you to contact someone. I mean, raise pure hell."

"We had broken down trucks, non-armored vehicles and, um, we were carrying contaminated fuel. They are holding us against our will. We are now prisoners," she said.

Hill said she was later contacted by Spc. Tammy Reese in Iraq, who was calling families of the detainees.

"She told me (Amber) was being held in a tent with armed guards," said Hill, who spoke with her daughter Friday afternoon after her release. Her daughter said they are facing punishment ranging from a reprimand to a charge of mutiny.

The Army said the convoy successfully completed the fuel delivery a few hours after the platoon members refused to go.

The Army said the unit's commanding officer had ordered a "safety-maintenance stand down" during which the unit's vehicles would be inspected while the inquiry was being conducted.

Jackie Butler of Jackson, Miss., the wife of Staff Sgt. Michael Butler, 44, said she was awakened about 5:30 or 6 a.m. Thursday by a call from an officer in Iraq. He told her "that my husband was being detained for disobeying a direct order," Butler said, "and he went on to tell me that it was a bogus charge that they got against him and some of those soldiers over there, because what they were doing was sending them into a suicide mission and they refused to go."

'Valid concerns'

A senior Army officer in Washington said the 19 soldiers had been assembled on Wednesday morning to deliver fuel but that some refused to go. He denied they had been held under guard.

The officer said the soldiers raised "some valid concerns."

"Unfortunately it appears that a small number of the soldiers involved chose to express their concerns in an inappropriate manner," he said. Insubordination during wartime is considered a grave offense, and an inquiry is under way, the officer said, to determine if the Uniform Code of Military Justice was violated and whether disciplinary measures were warranted.

"I know soldiers are deeply concerned and have been deeply concerned about the equipment shortages," said Paul Rieckhoff, a veteran of the Iraq war and executive director of Operation Truth, a New York advocacy group working to draw attention to the needs of soldiers in Iraq and returning veterans. *New York Times News Service, AFP, Reuters, AP*

Skip front page…

From page A1

wrote in his latest View from the Palace, a weekly recap of Malacañang goings-on.

"Good news is like gold. It is buried deep (inside) and you have to dig for it," Bunye said.

The Malacañang spokesperson could only hope this piece lands in the inside pages.

Since majority of readers just stick to the front page, they end up reading only the negative stories.

Daily dose of negatives

"If one has a daily dose of negatives, pretty soon one develops a negative outlook not just about the country but ultimately about themselves. Negative thoughts produce negative actions," Bunye aired his frustrations in his weekly piece.

Apparently, the headlines last week were not to Malacañang's liking.

Read for yourself: Amid economic difficulties, an increasing number of Filipinos are going hungry; controversies persist involving the President's appointees; money-losing government corporations continue to pay fat salaries to its top officials; senior military officers have been found with unexplained wealth.

Now this: An American think tank has described Ms Arroyo as the "weakest leader in the region."

Feel-good stories

Bunye said that there were many things the Filipino could be proud of and feel good about. He made a list:

- The Philippines is a major car exporter with Ford Philippines expected to export more than 100,000 units in the next five years.
- As a major player in the call center industry, it ranks third in the world after India and China.
- When it comes to Information and Communications Technology (ICT), the Philippines is No. 4 worldwide in terms of competence and skills.
- America Online has 1,000 people in Clark answering 90 percent of AOL's global e-mail inquiries.
- Texas Instruments in Baguio produces chips that run 100 percent of all Nokia cell phones and 80 percent of Ericsson cell phones.

More good news

- Toshiba laptops and Panasonic cell phones are produced in Laguna.
- The most advanced Pentium 4 chip of Intel is produced in Cavite.
- The Philippine-owned International Container Services Inc. won the bid to develop and manage the Baltic container port in Poland for $100 million.
- While McDonald's is No. 1 in the United States, Jollibee is No. 1 in the Philippines.
- Cebu Pacific is embarking on a trans-Atlantic journey and PAL continues to cover the China market.
- The country recorded the lowest number of strikes in 21 years.
- In the countryside, marginalized people are becoming empowered. New roads are being built. Electricity and water are being provided.

Reading the papers is part of Bunye's job description.

As a "spin doctor," Bunye churns out presidential statements reacting on virtually every headline story in every newspaper on a daily basis. On top of that, he faces Malacañang reporters every day to answer their questions on any subject under the sun.

Former reporter

Bunye knows the territory well. He was a former reporter for the defunct Manila Times Radio and Philippine Daily Star. A lawyer, he served as a congressman before joining Ms Arroyo as her spokesperson and press secretary.

"If my former media organizations closed down, I can assure you they were purely for reasons beyond the control of management and not due to my inability to write good stories," he quipped in a speech at the Gridiron of the National Press Club recently.

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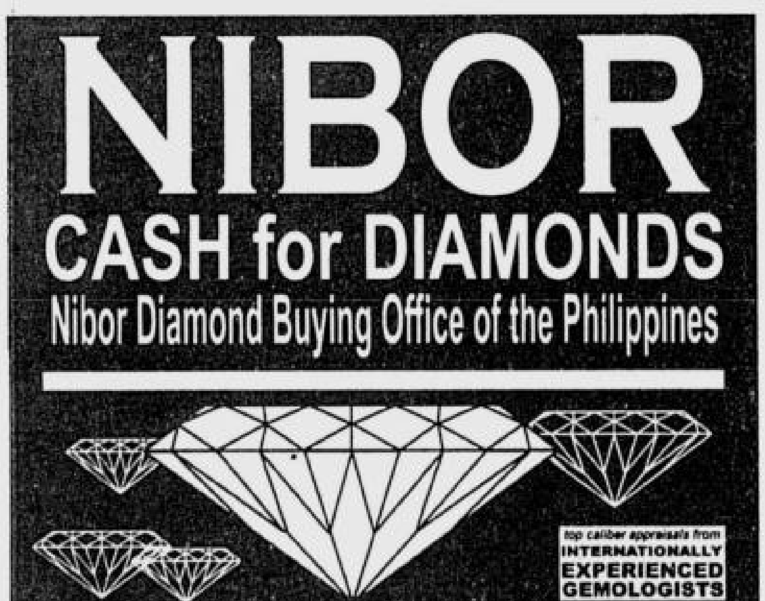

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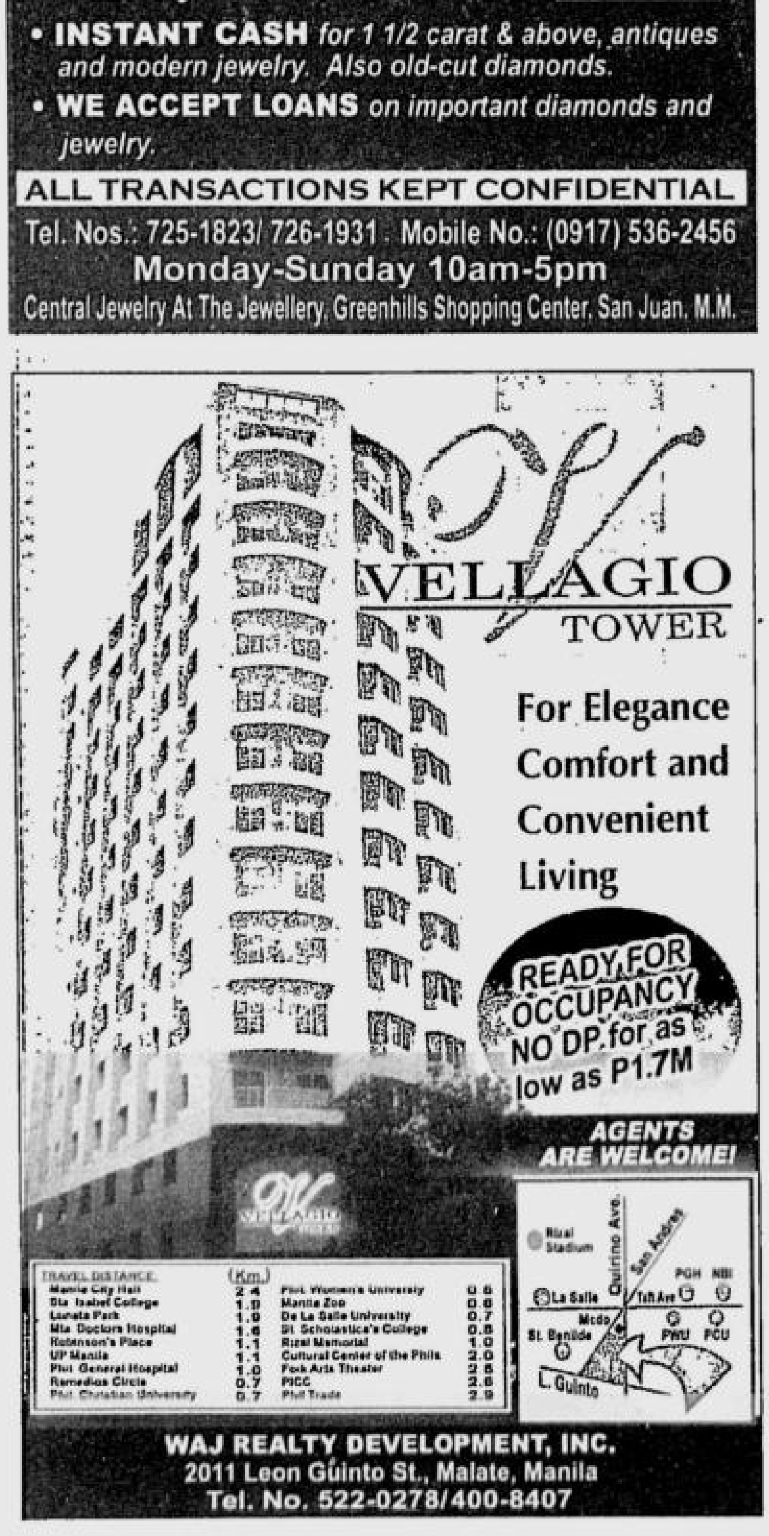

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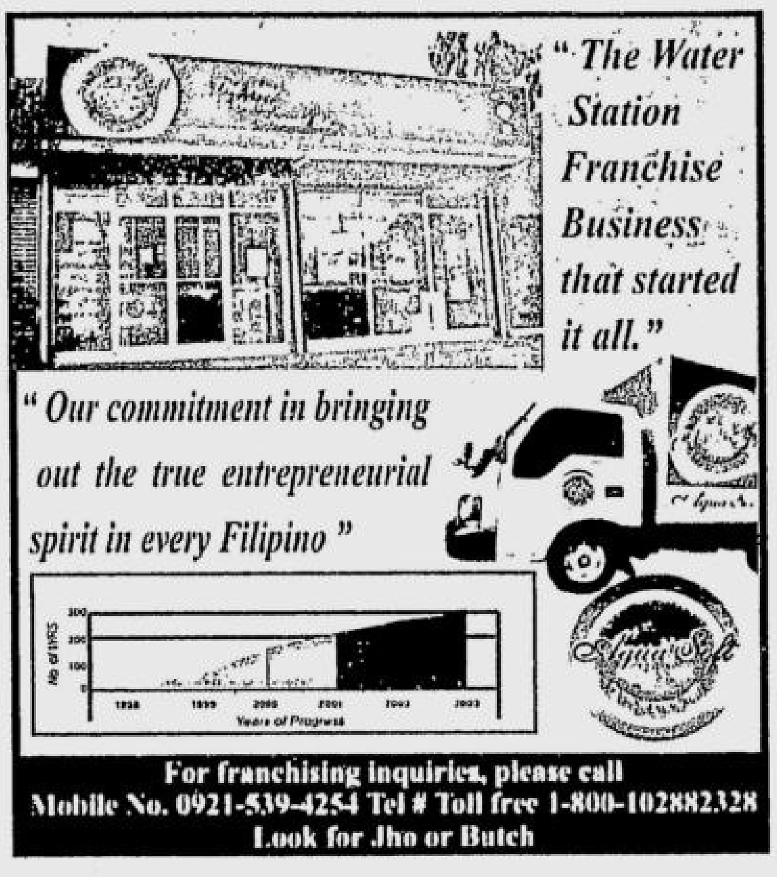

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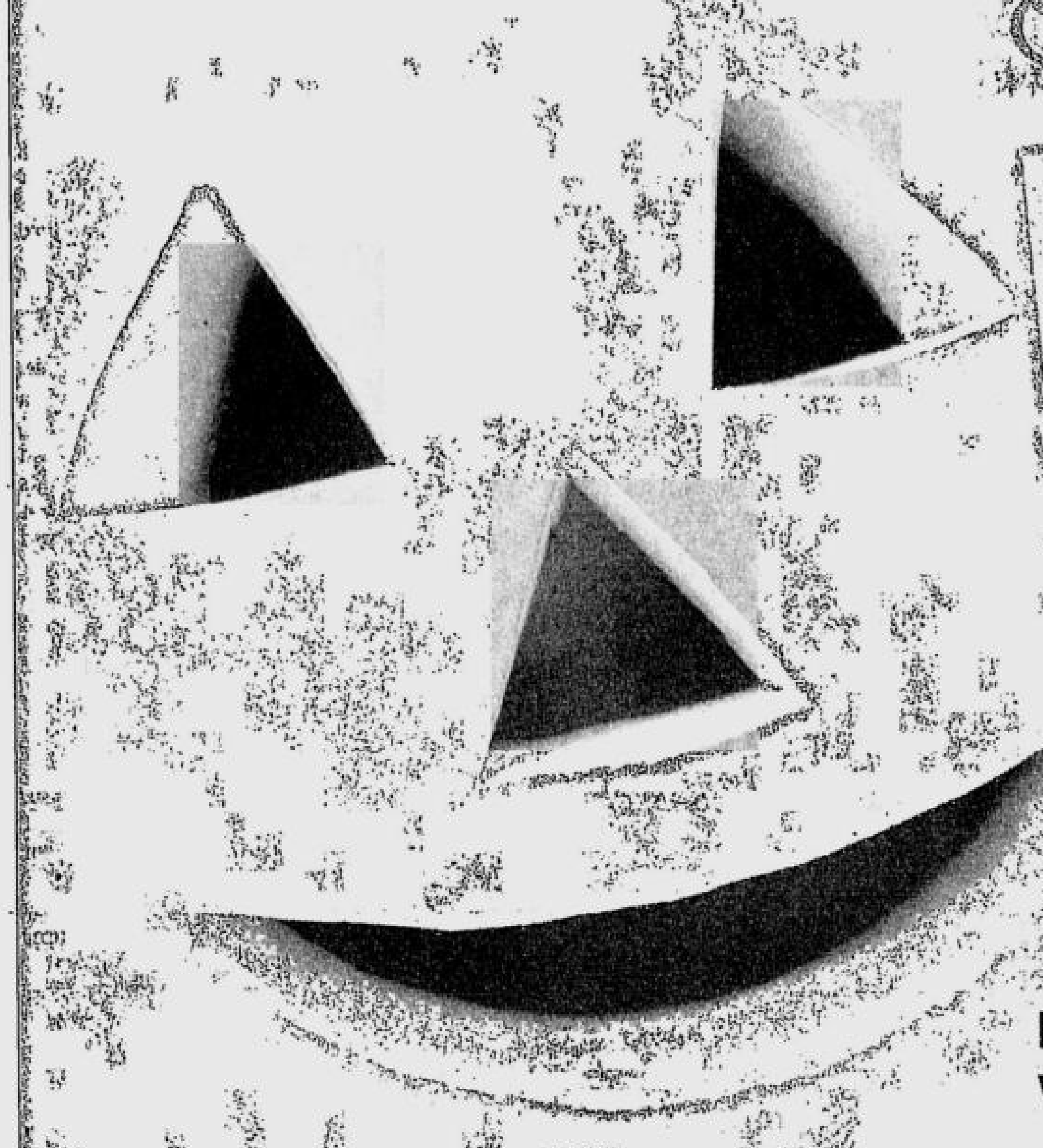

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SR 1.8 GAS A/T	896,000	100,000	67,788	46,725	37,021	26,672	21,762	18,456
GSX 2.0 GAS A/T	847,000	100,000	63,368	43,678	34,610	24,935	20,345	17,253
GLX 1.8 GAS A/T	807,000	100,000	59,760	41,191	32,642	23,517	19,188	16,270
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Solons to summon AFP auditors to House probe

By Norman Bordadora and Carlito Pablo

THE HOUSE committee on national defense will summon the state auditors assigned to the Armed Forces General Headquarters during Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia's term as comptroller, according to committee chair Parañaque Rep. Roilo Golez.

"What we have here is the COA (Commission on Audit) being part of the syndicate. That's why we are summoning them (the auditors) to the inquiry," Golez told reporters after a breakfast news forum yesterday in Quezon City.

Golez said no investigation of the alleged corruption in the military procurement process would progress if nobody would point out specific instances.

He said that with the collusion of certain suppliers and military officers, documentary requirements such as delivery and inventory receipts, and even certificates of consumption, could be fabricated to cover irregular expenditures.

Golez quoted Col. Rafael Regino, the AFP surgeon general, as saying that Garcia was now fit to face the rigors of the House inquiry on his unexplained wealth.

He said Garcia should submit to the investigation being conducted by the committees on national defense and on banks because the general could serve as a state witness.

"But we have to see whether he has a story to tell," Golez said. "It's up to him whether he'd take the responsibility [of telling on others]."

Golez said, however, that the committees did not need Garcia's inputs to uncover the alleged corruption, which he described as "a multi-headed hydra."

He said state auditors as well as other officers involved in the procurement process could be invited to testify.

But opposition congressmen are questioning the inquiry.

For one, House committees are not supposed to hold inquiries during the recess, Quezon City Rep. Vincent Crisologo said in a phone interview.

The deputy minority leader said the House committee on rules chaired by Majority Leader Rep. Prospero Nograles had authorized only the committee on appropriations to hold hearings on the proposed 2005 budget during the Sept. 24-Oct. 24 break.

"We're not protecting the generals, but we in the minority have reservations on whether the current investigation has been clothed with the proper authority," Crisologo said.

The two involved committees have held three hearings and are to resume the inquiry tomorrow.

But Golez said the inquiry had been authorized by Nograles. He said a representative of Minority Leader Rep. Francis Escudero had likewise signed an authorization.

In a phone interview, Escudero said he would rather delve into the way Golez had been handling the inquiry: "[It] is focusing too much on Garcia when the real issue is graft and corruption in the military."

Escudero also said the two committees were taking too long in inviting former AFP chiefs of staff, particularly those whom Garcia had served as comptroller.

Garcia took P44M to US, documents say

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$100,000.

The Ombudsman report said Garcia declared that he was carrying $15,000 when he arrived in the United States on Nov. 4, 1993, to pursue a master's degree at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. On Aug. 1, 1995, he again declared $10,400.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez yesterday said the Philippine government had formally asked US authorities to freeze the Garcia assets in the United States.

Gonzalez said it was the Anti-Money Laundering Council that made the formal request through the RP-US Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty.

The US Department of Homeland Security has so far identified three Garcia assets—a $765,000 Trump Park Avenue Condominium at 502 Park Avenue, New York; a $750,000 apartment at 222 East 34th Street, also in New York, and a house at 625 Vancouver Drive, Westerville, Ohio.

While the value of the Ohio house remains undetermined, it is the known US address of the general's wife and their sons Ian Carl, Juan Paolo and Timothy Mark. All four are American citizens.

Garcia, a 1971 graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, was assigned to the Armed Forces Corps of Engineers (CE) from 1971 to 1989. He served in the logistics office from 1989 to 1996, and was then recalled to the CE where he served in various capacities, including as chief of engineers from May 29, 2000 to March 27, 2001.

He was named AFP deputy chief of staff for comptrollership on March 28, 2001. He draws a monthly salary of P37,000.

Flights

Citing records from the Bureau of Immigration, the Ombudsman report said Garcia and his wife left for Amsterdam on Dec. 7, 2003, and returned to the Philippines on Dec. 29.

It was in the same month that the Garcia sons left Manila on board a Philippine Airlines flight to San Francisco, where they were held by customs authorities for failing to declare the $100,000.

On Jan. 14, 2004, Clarita Garcia left Manila on board a Northwest Airlines flight to Nagoya, immigration records showed.

On May 10, 2002, she and her two sons took a PAL flight to San Francisco, but only Juan Paolo returned to the Philippines on May 29.

The Ombudsman looked into the Garcias' travels and financial transactions after David Meisner, an attaché from the ICE at the US Embassy sent a letter saying that the US Department of Homeland Security was investigating the family for "violating US money laundering laws," the report said.

Meisner attached to the letter a sworn statement by Clarita Garcia to the ICE agents that the currency confiscated from her sons was "gratitude money" from Philippine companies that were awarded military contracts to build roads, bridges and houses for the military, the report said.

Meisner's letter was dated Sept. 14, 2004. The Ombudsman started the investigation on Sept. 17.

Ten days later, investigators filed a formal complaint and recommended Garcia's preventive suspension.

'We have to be careful'

Gonzalez, however, said authorities should be careful in looking into the assets of Garcia and other generals suspected of corruption.

"Let's look at the assets that were illegally acquired. Not all of them are illegal," he said, adding:

"We cannot just be running amuck here."

Gonzalez said some of the generals' assets might have been acquired while prices were still low.

"I got my house [in Manila] at P700 per square meter in 1981. Now it's worth P35,000 [per sq.m.)," he said. "We have to be careful, or nobody would consider joining the government."

Malacañang also appealed to the opposition not to drag the whole AFP down.

"The opposition should not use the Garcia issue to rake up muck against the whole institution," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye, President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson.

Bunye said errant military officers were already "being sacked and brought to justice."

"There are many generals who have stuck to the line of duty and the code of integrity," he said, adding that "through the majority of honest and faithful soldiers, the AFP can redeem itself."

The Court of Appeals ordered on Wednesday a freeze of the Garcias' 40 bank accounts in the country after finding that "probable cause exists that an unlawful activity and/or a money-laundering offense is about to be, is being, or has been committed."

Solicitor General Alfredo Benipayo said these accounts contained "large amounts of money believed to constitute proceeds of illegal activities..."

GMA satisfied

Bunye said the President was satisfied with the way the AFP leadership was handling the investigation of senior officers and believed that the reforms she wanted were being implemented.

Ms Arroyo, however, said last week that it was she who had ordered the AFP to subject Garcia to a court-martial.

Malacañang also rejected a proposal by opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara to turn Garcia into a state witness to encourage him to spill the beans on his superiors and other officials who might have benefited from corruption in the military.

Bunye said in an RMN radio interview that this proposal was "premature" because it had not been established that Garcia had accomplices and that he was the least guilty among them.

He reiterated Malacañang's position that the guilty parties should be penalized, and said the investigations being conducted by the Ombudsman and Congress should be transparent and open to the public.

'Verbal directive'

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya has ordered Garcia's transfer from the UST Hospital in Manila to the AFP Medical Center on V. Luna, Quezon City, "as soon as his health allows it," Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero told reporters.

Lucero, chief of the AFP Public Information Office, denied that the military leadership was helpless in moving Garcia from the private hospital, and said Abaya's "verbal directive" would be carried out "as ordered."

He did not give a specific time for the transfer.

Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay Jr., co-chair of the powerful Commission on Appointments, called on Abaya to work double-time during the remaining days of his term to resolve Garcia's case.

For starters, Abaya should immediately convene the court-martial to try Garcia, Pichay said.

Abaya reaches the mandatory retirement age of 56 on Oct. 29.

Pichay said the Commission on Appointments would thoroughly vet the next AFP chief to ensure that he would be able to institute reforms in the military.

"We must determine whether he has any participation in corruption similar to Garcia's," the congressman said. "A dirty chief of staff will just help perpetuate the corruption prevalent in the military." *With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana, Alcuin Papa and Carlito Pablo*

Too old to reenact the promised return of MacArthur

From page A1

soldiers. This will be a showcase of the valor of the Filipino soldiers," said tourism director Romulo "Ting" de los Reyes, also a committee member.

The tableau will be incorporated in a military parade that will follow an hour-long program at the sprawling MacArthur Landing Memorial National Park in Palo town.

"The idea is to commemorate the sacrifices of our people. We should give recognition to our guerrillas and veterans. They're dying as we speak," said Sen. Richard Gordon, who co-chairs the committee with Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo.

Ford can't make it

President Macapagal-Arroyo will address the veterans, the descendants of the deceased veterans and guests, including members of the diplomatic corps.

Ms Arroyo had invited former US President Gerald Ford to be guest of honor, but his chief of staff expressed regrets, saying Ford had prior commitments.

Unknown to many, Ford, then a naval officer, was on board the USS Monterey, a light aircraft carrier that was part of the Allied fleet of over 700 ships that landed on the beaches of Leyte 60 years ago.

No MacArthur kin

US Embassy officials are not optimistic that any of the relatives of MacArthur would be able to come for the commemoration, but were hopeful the descendants of veterans, like the late General and Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Romulo, would make it.

Romulo was immortalized in the famous photo that showed him behind MacArthur as the general hit the shore. Romulo's son, Roberto, is a former foreign secretary himself while his nephew, Alberto, is the current foreign secretary.

May be their last

Over 1,000 veterans, mostly Filipinos, are expected to be in Leyte for what could be their "last major commemoration" of the liberation.

Some may not be around for the 65th or 70th celebration, organizers said.

Each veteran will receive a commemorative chest badge which captures the landings in miniature and is adorned with the phrase, "Salute to Valor."

"They will have something to take home and cherish," Cruz, acting director of the Department of Foreign Affairs' Office of American Affairs, said of the badge. "It's a token, of course. It's something to be proud of."

The veterans will converge before dawn for a 5 a.m. "sunrise ceremony" where they will lay wreaths at the Filipino Soldier Monument and Shrine.

At a 6 p.m. "sunset ceremony," they will light candles on the shores of Red Beach, one of the beaches they stormed in 1944.

The festivities will allow Filipino veterans to touch base with their counterparts from the United States, Australia, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

"We would like to celebrate these events with austerity, but with meaning," Cruz said. "So in a way we would like to celebrate them with the tightest budget possible, but with a most meaningful event. Not just to the veterans, but to the youth as well," he said.

Australia, US veterans

Australia is bringing in some 30 to 40 veterans aboard three ships. The US Embassy is unsure about the number of its veterans flying in.

"There's talk of many dozens, perhaps several hundreds of them. But you know they are very old. They want to come, and we're trying to get as many of them as possible," US Embassy Charge d'Affaires Joseph Mussomeli said.

"Most of them will be Americans who fought in the Philippines, but a lot of them are former Filipinos who moved to the States after the war," he said.

GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR (wearing his signature dark glasses) after the landing in Palo, Leyte, declares the reestablishment of the Philippine Commonwealth on the footsteps of the Leyte Capitol. To his left is President Sergio Osmeña. This photo is on display at the Montejo ancestral home in Tacloban City.

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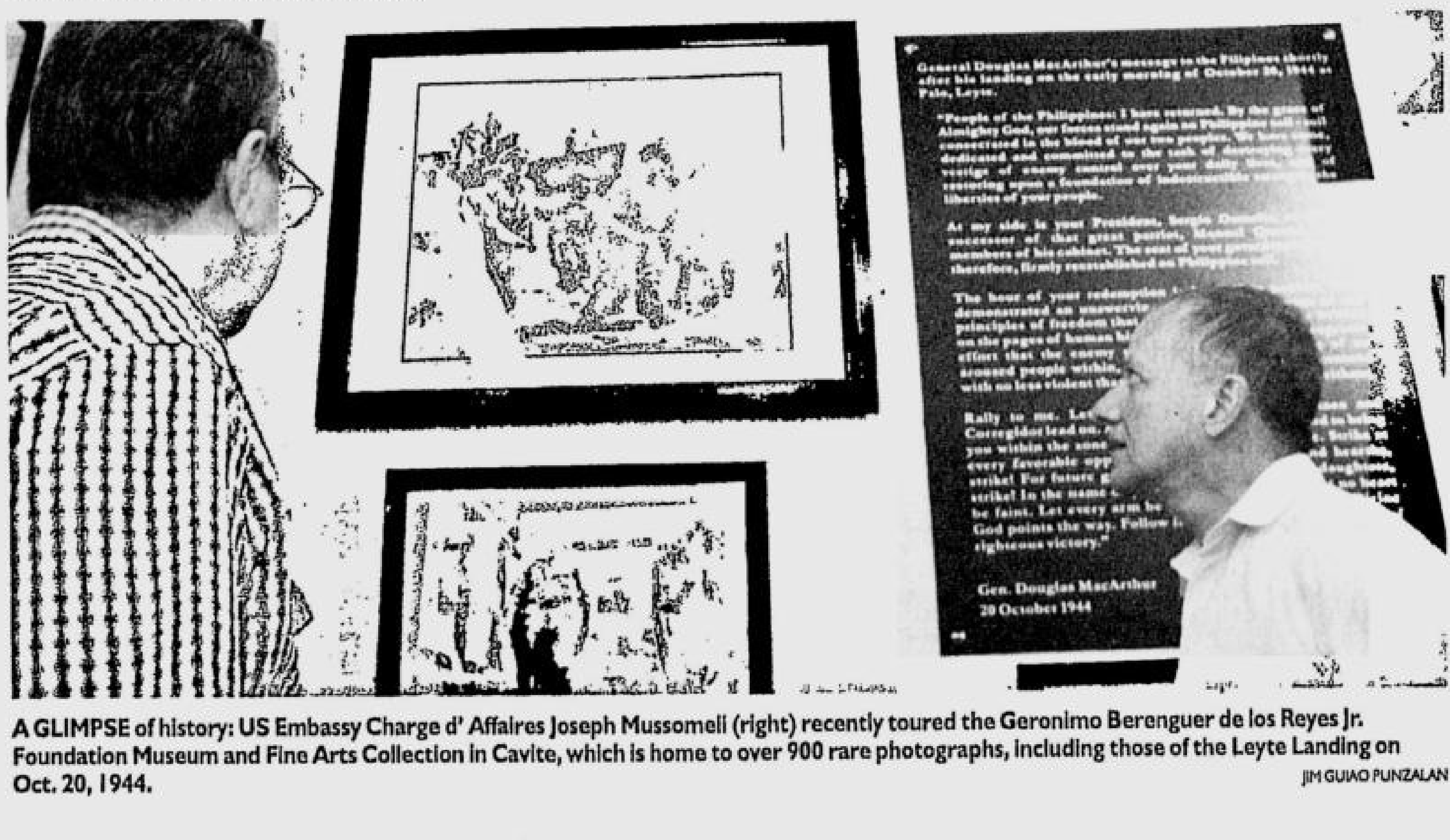

A GLIMPSE of history: US Embassy Charge d' Affaires Joseph Mussomeli (right) recently toured the Geronimo Berenguer de los Reyes Jr. Foundation Museum and Fine Arts Collection in Cavite, which is home to over 900 rare photographs, including those of the Leyte Landing on Oct. 20, 1944.

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Air Force losing pilots, mechanics to airlines

PILOTS and skilled aircraft mechanics of the Philippine Air Force are leaving in droves for commercial airlines where the pay is much higher.

PAF spokesperson Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla Jr. yesterday confirmed that about 100 veteran pilots had opted to retire early to accept the lucrative offers of airlines.

He identified one of these as Cebu Pacific Air which is expanding its international routes.

Commercial airline pilots receive an initial salary of P60,000 to P80,000 a month, which increases to as much as P200,000 or more per month, excluding allowances, compared to PAF pilots who get a mere P30,000 or less monthly, depending on their rank.

Padilla said the wages offered by commercial airlines was just too lucrative and tempting for PAF pilots to turn down.

Aside from this, a big number of skilled Air Force aircraft mechanics are moving to the private sector or going abroad for greener pastures, he said.

"Aircraft mechanics are hard to replace because it takes years to train skilled ones," Padilla said.

He said most of the mechanics go to the Middle East where they receive huge salaries.

The exodus of PAF pilots and aircraft mechanics to the private sector has worried Air Force officials, particularly Lt. Gen. Jose Reyes, PAF commanding general.

Another reason pilots and mechanics are leaving is the PAF lacks planes and helicopters, Padilla said.

What planes it has have been grounded, like all its F-5 jet fighters because of their lack of airworthiness like cracks in the fuselage.

Reyes said that for the PAF fighter pilots to maintain their flying proficiency in the meantime, they have to undergo periodic simulated flying.

The PAF and the Philippine Navy are high on the list of the modernization program of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, but fund lack has hampered any new acquisitions.

The Air Force's plan to acquire a squadron of 18 new multi-role aircraft has remained on the drawing board for two decades, while the air forces of countries around Asia have modernized their fleets.

Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand have modern fighter jets like the US-made F-16 and the F-29 Foxbat produced by Russia. *PNA*

Jalosjos may be discharged, says doc

By Nancy C. Carvajal

CONVICTED former Zamboanga Rep. Romeo Jalosjos can be returned to prison after his doctor approved his discharge from the Makati Medical Center last Friday.

Dr. Anthony King, a cardiologist, gave the go-signal after seeing the results of the angiogram done on Jalosjos. The test results indicated that Jalosjos was free of coronary artery disease.

An angiogram is an X-ray examination of one's blood. A specialist trained in interventional radiology performs the procedure.

"The possibility of the patient suffering a heart attack is slim," King told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

King, however, said he was only a "reliever" since Jalosjos' attending physician, Dr. Romeo Estrellado, was out of the country.

Dr. Saturnino P. Javier, an interventionist-cardiologist at the Makati Medical Center, confirmed the results of the angiogram done on Jalosjos to the INQUIRER.

Jalosjos was confined at the hospital after suffering what was believed to be a heart attack in his cell on Oct.2.

In a separate interview, Juanito Leopando, penal superintendent at the New Bilibid Prisons, said Jalosjos would be brought back to the national penitentiary in Muntinlupa City "on Monday, at the latest."

Jalosjos has refused to return to NBP because of alleged threats to his life. He said he had information he would be killed on his way back to the prison or once he is back inside. He did not say who wanted him dead, however.

Party-list Rep. Benjamin Cruz dies at 70

REP. BENJAMIN Cruz (party-list Butil Farmers Party) died on Friday after an illness. He was 70.

Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. lauded Cruz for his "legacy as a consistent advocate of the Filipino farmer sector."

Cruz was on his second term in the House as a party-list lawmaker and had been appointed chair of the special committee on food security in the 13th Congress.

"The House mourns the passing of Ben Cruz," De Venecia said. He said Cruz's remains would be brought to the lower chamber next week for necrological services.

Cruz had long been identified with peasant organizations. *Carlito Pablo*

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The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

5 churches hit by bomb explosions across Baghdad

BAGHDAD—Bombs exploded near five churches around Baghdad on Saturday morning followed by an artillery shell striking in a hotel parking lot near a sixth church, causing damage but no casualties, officials said.

"There were five explosions caused by improvised bombs near to these churches," said Col. Adnan Abdel Rahman, an interior ministry spokesperson.

The patriarch of the Chaldean Church, Msgr. Emmanuel Delly, expressed the fears of his beleaguered community.

"If the government is powerless, what can we do?" Delly said.

"We call on them (attackers) not to touch the holy sites." In an apparently coordinated strike against Iraq's tiny Christian community, the church of Saint Joseph in the west of the Iraqi capital was hit at about 4:00 a.m. (0100 GMT), the spokesperson said.

Twenty minutes later, another blast ripped through the streets at another Saint Joseph church, in Dora, southern Baghdad. After another 20 minutes, Saint Paul's church was struck in the same area.

At 4:50 a.m., the Roman Catholic St. George church in the central district of Karrada was rocked by a blast and engulfed in flames, leaving the wood-built sanctuary completely charred.

A fifth explosion occurred about an hour later at Saint Thomas church in Mansour, to the west.

The violence resumed hours later when an artillery shell was fired into a car park between a hotel and Saint George's Anglican church, witnesses and US soldiers said.

"There were no injuries," said Tassin Ali, a security guard who had been sitting at the front gate to the hotel.

The projectile struck directly opposite the church but it was unclear whether it had been the target, an AFP reporter said.

About five cars were damaged in the blast.

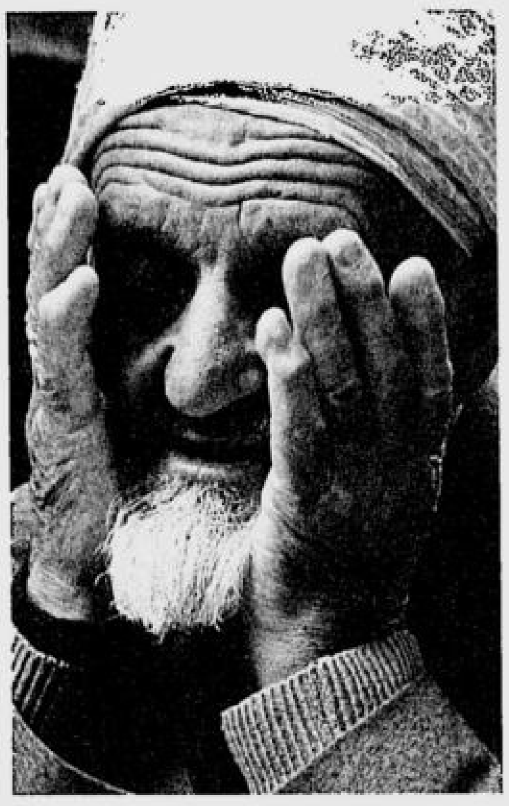
The US military said it knew of three explosions in the vicinity of the churches. One church caught fire after an explosion inside the building; a bomb exploded outside a second church, and a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a third, said Maj. Philip Smith.

Iraq's Christian community has been heavily targeted in the unrest that has swept Iraq following last year's US-led invasion and some have picked up and left.

At the start of August, four attacks against Christian targets in Baghdad and two others in Mosul left 10 people dead and 50 injured.

Besides large-scale attacks, liquor stores, owned by Christians, have been blown up by Islamic militants.

There are only about 700,000 Christians in Iraqi, or three percent of the country's population of some 25 million people, which is majority Muslim. *AFP*



THE CHURCHES were bombed as Muslims across the world marked the first days of Ramadan, a month of fasting, prayer and giving. Photo shows a Turkish Muslim praying in a mosque. AFP

2 US soldiers killed, 3 wounded in Afghanistan

KABUL—Two US troops were killed and three wounded by a mine detonated by remote control in Afghanistan's south central province of Uruzgan, the US military said Saturday.

"We had five casualties, two killed in action and three injured in action," US military spokesperson Scott Nelson told AFP, adding the troops were all US nationals.

They had been on a routine patrol Thursday in the Deh Rawood District in the south of the province when the mine was detonated as they passed by, he said.

A remote-controlled bomb also killed five people in the east of the violence-plagued country, an Afghan official said.

The five, who included a policeman, were killed in eastern Kunar province late Friday after the bomb exploded near a truck supplying food to US bases.

The truck had been stopped and set on fire by suspected loyalists of the ousted Taliban regime. *AFP*

New York oil price bolts to record $55

NEW YORK—New York's main crude oil price bolted to a record $55 a barrel Friday as traders fretted about stretched supplies, hot demand and thin stocks of winter heating fuel.

New York's benchmark contract, light sweet crude for delivery in November, shot to an unprecedented 55 dollars a barrel before closing at a record settlement of 54.93, up 17 cents on the day.

Brent North Sea crude for November hit 50.12 dollars but closed at 49.93 dollars, down 16 cents.

New York crude boomed as traders rode the momentum of a near 70-percent surge so far this year, Refco market analyst Marshall Steeves said.

"I think the momentum is going to keep it going for a while," Steeves said.

Crude oil prices have soared on concerns that producers are pumping at near full capacity to meet voracious global demand, particularly from China and India, leaving no wriggle room for any supply interruptions.

Market fears deepened after a US government report Thursday showed commercial heating oil supplies dripping lower, Steeves said.

"Obviously as we move into late October and November, conditions will get colder in the northeast where most of the heating oil is consumed," the analyst said.

Inventories of distillates—mostly diesel and heating oil—dropped 2.5 million barrels to 120.9 million in the week to Oct. 8, the US Energy Department said.

"The market fears that the US is running out of time to build winter fuel supplies, which are also short in Europe and Asia," analysts at the Sucden brokerage firm said in London.

High oil prices should have a more muted impact on US economic growth and inflation than the 1970s oil shock, however, Federal Reserve chair Alan Greenspan said in a speech here.

But the harm could intensify if oil prices moved "materially higher," he warned.

The Federal Reserve boss said in a speech here that he believed "part of the recent rise in spot prices is expected to wash out over the longer run." "In a round-about way Alan Greenspan kind of gave the green light for prices to go higher," by making the case that the economy could withstand rising energy costs, said Alaron Trading analyst Phil Flynn.

Earlier in the day, suspension of a general strike in major crude producer Nigeria had helped to cool prices a little, traders said.

World oil prices have more than doubled from about 20 dollars a barrel in New York at the start of 2002, surging by nearly 70 percent in New York since the start of this year.

Adjusted for inflation, however, they remain far below the levels reached in the wake of the 1979 Iranian revolution when prices surged to upwards of 80 dollars a barrel in today's money. *AFP*

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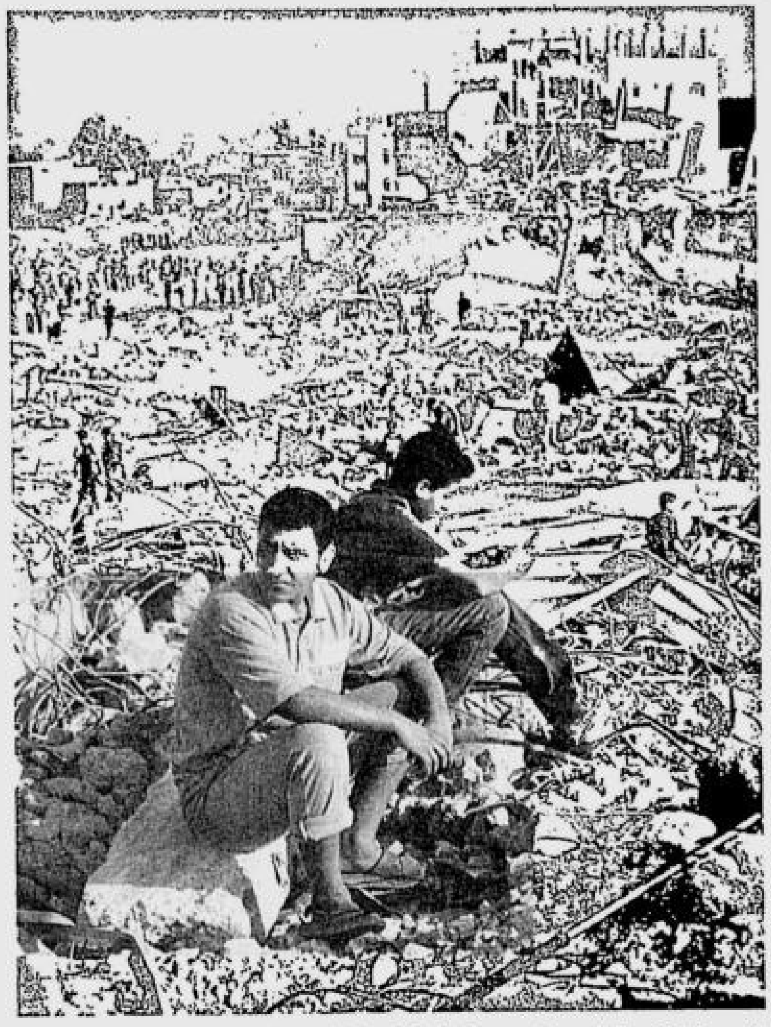
Israel ends huge Gaza offensive



PALESTINIANS sit on the rubble of their house demolished by Israeli bulldozers, after Israeli tanks withdrew from the Jabalya refugee camp at northern Gaza Strip Oct. 16. REUTERS

GAZA—Israeli tanks rumbled out of the Gaza Strip on Friday, ending a massive 16-day offensive that killed at least 100 Palestinians in an attempt to stop rocket fire into the Jewish state.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ordered the biggest raid into Gaza in the past four years of conflict under pressure to crush militants ahead of a planned withdrawal from the occupied territory by the end of 2005.

It followed the killing of two toddlers in an Israeli town on Sept. 29 by a rocket fired from Gaza.

Witnesses said all 200 tanks and armored vehicles in northern Gaza had withdrawn. Palestinians watched as tanks rolled out, then thronged the streets in celebration. Hamas Islamic militants claimed the withdrawal as a victory.

An Israeli military source said the pullout was meant to ease restrictions on Palestinians during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan. Sharon's spokesman said they would return if there were more rocket attacks.

"We will move in and act whenever we feel there is threat," said Raanan Gissin.

The offensive left a trail of destruction in northern Gaza.

Witnesses said electricity was knocked out in the town of Beit Hanoun. Troops had also uprooted many olive and citrus groves, which Israel says gave rocket squads a place to hide.

Tanks that had rumbled through crowded neighborhoods damaged homes and tore up roads and water pipes.

Palestinian medics said Israeli forces killed at least 62 militants and 42 other Palestinians believed to be civilians.

Gunmen killed three Israelis in north Gaza and a Thai farm worker in a retaliation raid.

Four Palestinians were killed on Friday, including a 75-year-old woman who was shot dead while eating her evening meal, breaking the fast on the first day of Ramadan. Palestinian medics and witnesses said Israeli gunfire killed the woman, but a military source said it was not clear who killed her.

The Islamic group Hamas, many of whose militants have been killed by Israeli forces during the raid, said it considered the pullout a victory.

"The Zionist army has retreated in defeat from all the positions," said Hamas spokesman Fathi Hammad. "We consider it a victory for our resistance." Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Zeev Boim had said the operation had largely achieved its goal, though several Qassam rockets struck the southern Israeli town of Sderot on Friday, without causing casualties.

Qassam attacks have complicated Sharon's efforts to overcome rightist opposition to his plan to remove all 21 Gaza settlements and four o 120 in the West Bank, starting next May.

Polls show most Israelis support a Gaza pullout, regarding the area as too costly in lives and money.

Reuters

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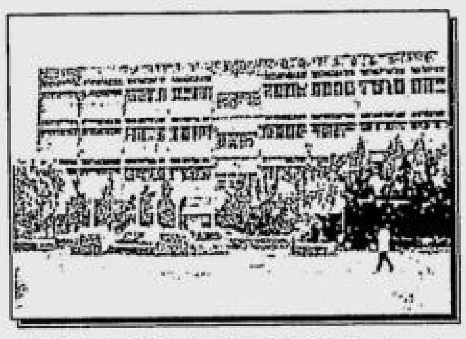

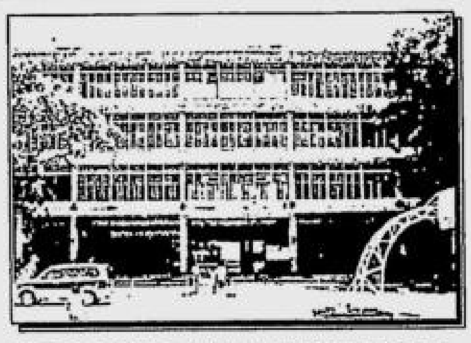

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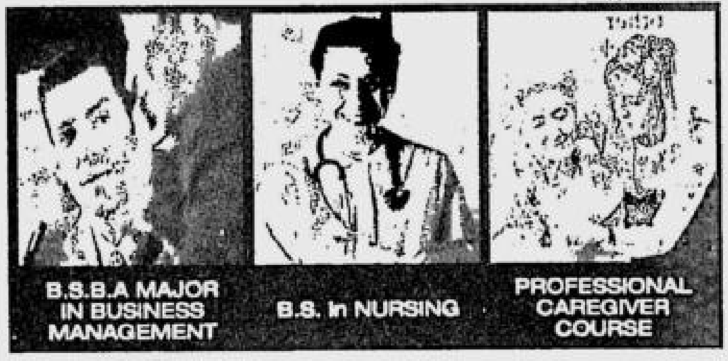

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Spain royals hold throne due to forgery, book says

ROME—Spain's royal Bourbon family occupies the throne because France's Sun King Louis XIV forged a will, two Italian authors claim in a forthcoming book.

His aim was to prevent a member of the Hapsburg family, rulers in much of Europe, from succeeding the Hapsburg King Charles II of Spain.

"Secretum" is the second work by Rita Monaldi and Francesco Sorti, who in 2001 published "Imprimatur," an inquiry into the secrets of the Vatican and intrigue at the court of Louis XIV.

Like its predecessor, "Secretum" takes the form of a historical novel but according to Sorti it is based on research in French foreign ministry archives and the Marucelliana Library in Florence.

As part of their argument the authors asked two expert graphologists to examine the will of Charles II, who died in 1700 aged 39.

Marina Tonini and Andrea Faiello, accredited experts to the courts of Verona (northeast Italy) and Naples (south), said the document they had been asked to review was a forgery.

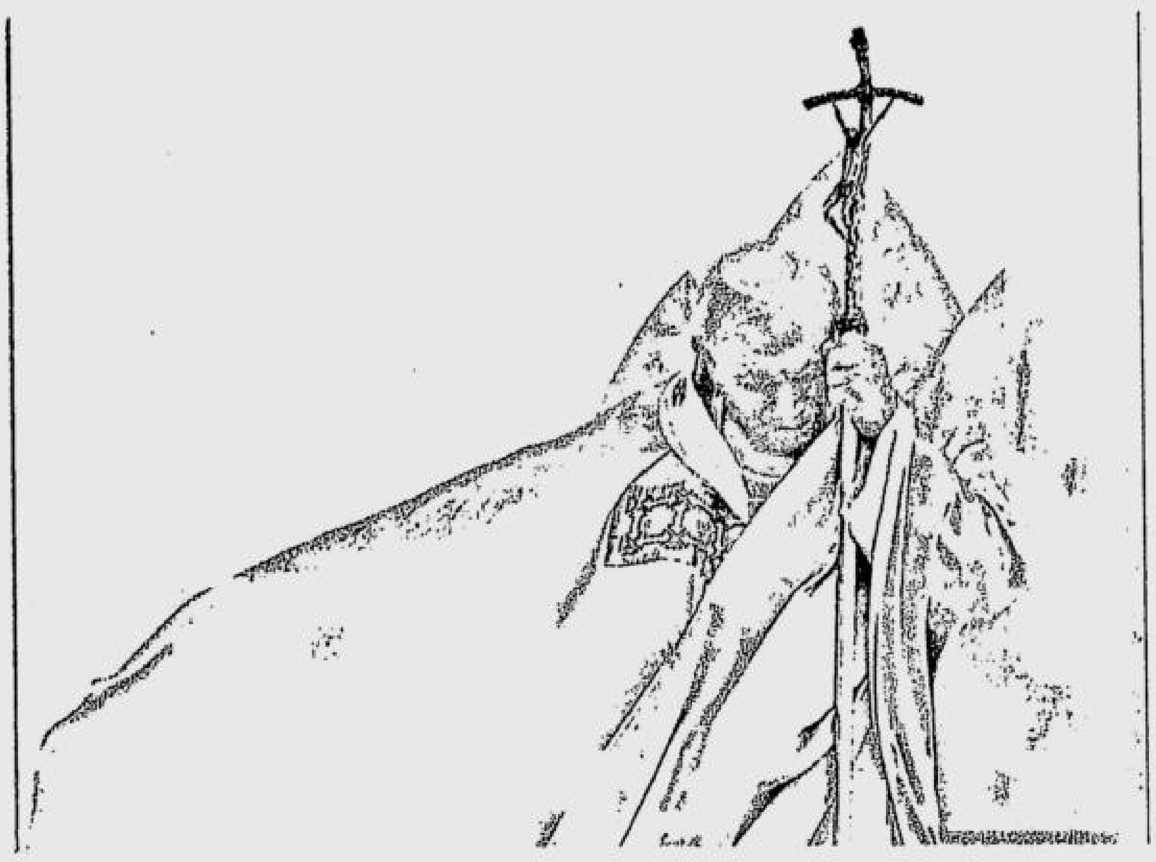
Their findings were deposited with a lawyer in Vienna and can be consulted on request.

Charles II died childless and in his will designated Philip of Anjou, nephew of Louis XIV, his heir.

"If Charles II had chosen a Hapsburg, as he had suggested he would, (King) Juan Carlos of Bourbon would not today be on the throne of Spain," the authors argue.

"History would undoubtedly have been quite different. The will of Charles II had as a consequence the War of the Spanish Succession (1710-1714) which brought France and the whole continent to its knees," they said.

"If he had not taken the throne of Spain, Philip of Anjou would without doubt have become King of France. There would not have been the Regency (1715-1723) and, who knows, perhaps there would not have been the French revolution," said Sorti. *AFP*



26TH YEAR
POPE John Paul II celebrating a mass of beatification, Sept. 19, 1999. The pontiff, whom prelates like to joke has buried many of his successors, quietly celebrated the 26th anniversary of his election as pope Oct. 16, 2004. AFP

5 nations win seats on UN Council

UNITED NATIONS—Argentina, Denmark, Greece, Japan and Tanzania on Friday won coveted two-year terms on the UN Security Council at a time when pressure is mounting to expand the powerful 15-nation body.

The 191-nation UN General Assembly elected the five, all unopposed, to fill vacancies created by the departure of Angola, Chile, Germany, Pakistan and Spain on Dec. 31.

The council has five permanent members—the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China—and 10 nonpermanent seats, chosen by region, five of which change hands every year.

Algeria, Benin, Brazil, the Philippines and Romania, which began their terms in January 2004, will remain on the council for another year.

The Security Council is responsible for international peace and security, and its decisions can be legally binding on all UN members.

With the UN marking its 60th birthday next year, there is growing pressure to enlarge the council, whose five permanent members have held onto their seats and wielded veto power since the end of World War II in 1945.

Japan's new council seat could help its campaign for a permanent seat. Tokyo has joined forces with Germany, Brazil and India, all of whom say they should be represented permanently on the council.

Japan is the second largest financial contributor to the UN after the US, paying some 20 percent of the organization's regular budget.

Others seeking a permanent seat include Italy, Egypt, Nigeria and South Africa.

In Tokyo, Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura said Japan would use its two-year seat to help build the case for Security Council reforms. including a permanent seat for itself. *Reuters*

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Bush rhetoric seen masking reality in Afghanistan

KABUL—Three years after the US-led invasion, Afghanistan is flooding the world with heroin, warlords reign in the provinces, women are scared and the new security forces are underarmed and undersized, analysts say.

But as he bids for re-election, US President George W. Bush is trumpeting Afghanistan's own recent presidential polls as a symbol of success in nation-building.

His Democrat challenger John Kerry meanwhile makes the diversion of resources from Afghanistan to Iraq and the failure to nail Osama bin Laden three years ago key planks of his attack.

Bush's vision of success in Afghanistan since US forces helped overthrow the ultra-Islamic Taliban in late 2001 is rose-tinted, the analysts say. But Kerry's criticism may be over-simplistic, they add.

"Bush has painted a rosier picture than exists on the ground... and expressed success prematurely," said Vikram Parekh, Afghan affairs analyst for the International Crisis Group.

"When Bush presents Afghanistan as a country which has made great strides towards democracy, those claims lack credibility," Riffat Hussein, head of strategic studies at Pakistan's Quaid-e-Azam University, told AFP.

Hussein and others cite three yardsticks for improvement in the war-torn central Asian land in the last three years: the creation of a national security force; eradicating opium poppies, and disarming warlords' militias.

"If we take these three or four areas to measure success, you will get a very mixed result," Hussein said.

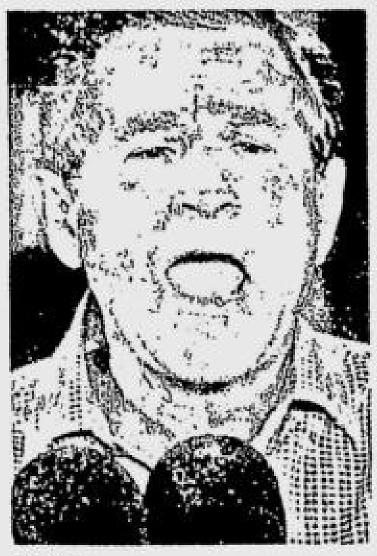
"Militarily the country is under the control of the warlords and Karzai's government does not run beyond Kabul. Right now it's virtual warlord rule whether you look east, west, north or south of Kabul.

"One litmus test is Afghanistan's progress in setting up its own army. Initial goals were for 90,000 and they've not been able to raise beyond 15,000.

"This lack of a national army is directly related to the failure of the government to reign in opium poppies."

Poppy cultivation is set to jump 40 percent this year, the CIA predicts, after a bumper crop last year supplied 90 percent of Europe's heroin and three quarters of the worldwide supply.

It brought in 2.3 billion dollars to Afghanistan last year, 35 percent of gross domestic product, making it the crippled economy's biggest source of revenue.


BUSH

Parekh points out last weekend's peaceful and well-attended election was "only half an election." Parliamentary elections are on hold until April, because of insecurity and logistical problems.

"That's still going to be a formidable task to administer," Parekh told AFP. "By postponing it, we haven't addressed the obligations that we, the international community, have committed to."

Post-election claims by the US military that the Taliban are a spent force after failing to sabotage the elections, were "very much a premature conclusion," Parekh said.

Bush capitalized on the first vote on Oct. 9 being cast by a refugee woman in Pakistan, to underscore women's emancipation from Taliban-imposed repression.

Outside Kabul, however, most are still in all-enclosing burqas, and women are scared to speak out.

Human Rights Watch said a "pervasive atmosphere of fear" persists for women involved in politics. "Many Afghan women risk their safety if they participate in public life," it said in a report this month.

Freeing the provinces from the rule of the gun was also a long way off.

"Large parts of the country remain dominated by militia and the disarmament process has made limited headway," Parekh said.

Most Afghans told Human Rights Watch they were more afraid of local military commanders than the Taliban.

The crucial disarmament drive in one year has stripped just over 10,000 militiamen of weapons, but at least 30,000 are yet to surrender them.

Kerry accuses Bush of making "a colossal error of judgment" in diverting resources from the hunt for bin Laden to the war in Iraq.

"Instead of using US forces, we relied on the warlords to capture Osama bin Laden when he was cornered in the mountains (in December 2001)," he said in a campaign speech. *AFP*

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EDITORIALS

Flaws

FOUR days ago, the Singapore Straits Times picked up on the controversy involving errors in Philippine textbooks. Rather gleefully, it treated Singaporeans and other foreign readers to a catalogue of errors in a textbook, and a summary of the fight between the man who exposed those errors and our Department of Education. A fight, in true Philippine style, complete with full-page ads and recriminations, followed by a stubborn refusal to act—and an equally typical announcement that reforms would be initiated by the DepEd.

Now that the DepEd has decided to do something about our error-filled textbooks, the country can move beyond the acrimony between the department and Antonio Calipjo Go. With the common objective now clear to everybody—to correct mistakes in textbooks and tighten up the procedures that allowed the approval of substandard textbooks and their entry into our education system—the question is: On whose lap should the responsibility for reforms fall?

It is a fact that the primary responsibility for the scandalous approval of flawed textbooks lies with the DepEd. Equal responsibility lies with the publishers of these textbooks and those hired to prepare them. But the teachers and parents are as much responsible.

Textbooks with wrong and misleading information are not only an indictment of the sloppy, irresponsible work—which verge on the criminal—and plain stupidity of people in the DepEd; they are also an indictment of the publishers who commission incompetent people to write textbooks, and then peddle these books to the DepEd and the schools.

Indicted, too, are the schools that accepted such books and foisted them on their students. Of these schools—and there certainly have been quite a number—that accepted such books, the public indeed has a right to ask: How on earth did these schools come to accept such books as fit for students? But blame should also go to parents, who didn't seem to have taken the time to look into what their children were being taught.

And remedies

AS THE government goes ahead in purging the textbook system of corruption and plain stupidity, a call must be made for all sectors to do their part.

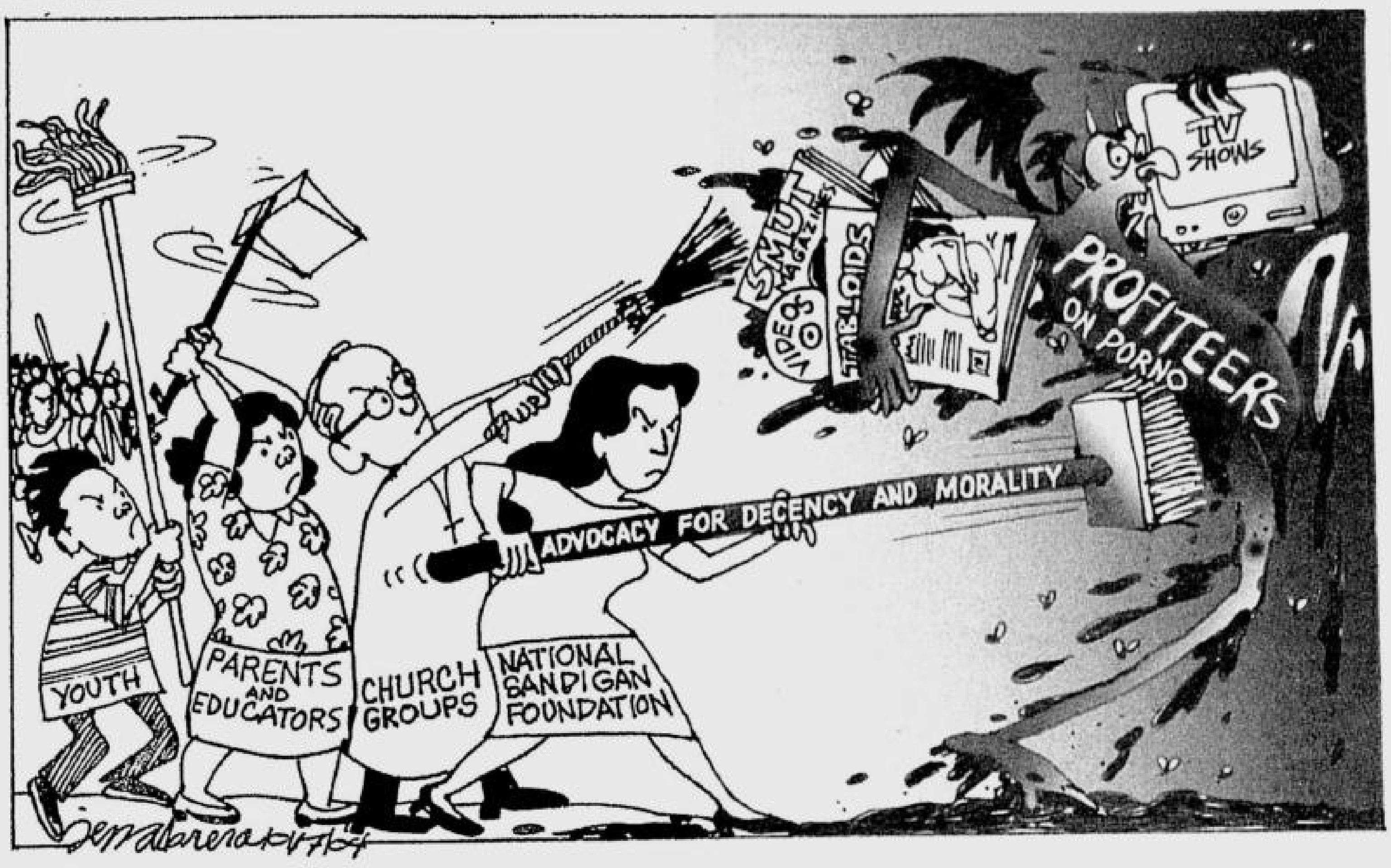
Publishers must be held answerable for the content of the books they print and sell for educational purposes. Officials must be personally held responsible for the factual correctness of what they approve. Schools, too, must be held accountable, if not by the government, then by the parents, for what they require their students to buy and read. Teachers must institute ways for errors to be rectified and reported; and for receiving, handling and addressing complaints about instructional materials. And parents must not shirk their responsibility to supervise the education of their children. Too many sectors have been willing to pass on responsibility to the state, when what keeps the state responsible is the vigilance of its citizens.

The academic communities, too, may have been remiss or simply ignored. Professional academic associations are aplenty and they could have done their part in the issuance of a seal of approval for textbooks that cover their areas of expertise. At the very least, amid the pressing public call for a thorough review of schoolbooks, the door should be opened for them to step in and help out.

Finally, as we go about instituting the needed reforms, it may serve well to ask: In a time of economic hardship and dwindling resources, must so many different kinds of textbooks be published? And must every student have to purchase a brand new book?

In the past, Filipino students were issued a book at the start of the school year, which they had to return at the end of that same school year, to be passed on to the next class. This is the practice in many countries far richer than ours. Generations of Filipinos received a good education through the use of standardized books, such as the Osias readers. In the process of being issued and having to return a book, they saved money and learned to be responsible stewards of books.

In the effort to deliver basic information, we wonder if having a flood of different textbooks isn't tantamount to squandering resources: financial, intellectual, and even moral.



The pathetic record of our public schools

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I WAS appalled by the recent report that as many as 97.9 percent of the public high school seniors who took the National Achievement Test given by the Department of Education last April failed to get the usual passing score of 75 percent. Their mean percentage score was only 50.08 in English, 36.80 in science and 42.20 in mathematics. Of the about 956,000 students who took the test, only 20.09 percent, or some 20,000 only, got a score of 75 percent or higher.

The report added that of the 1.4 million elementary school graduates who took the High School Readiness Test for admission to the secondary level, only 64 percent got a score of 75 percent or higher. Worse, half of the examinees failed to get a grade of even only 30 percent—and there were more than 500,000 of them.

I was appalled by these results, but I was not surprised. I had not expected much from our public school students, but I was alarmed just the same by their meager and disgraceful performance. It was such a pathetic contrast to the record of our public schools before the war, when we were still under the American administration.

For all their faults, these new imperialists—compared to their Castilian predecessors—taught our masses to read and write and even chose the bright ones to go to American colleges. We learned more about Washington and Lincoln rather than Rizal and Bonifacio, but at least it was a start, and soon enough we were writing our own history. The popular education introduced by the Thomasites and continued by their successors made the Philippines the most literate country in the whole of Asia and the most fluent in English among the Orientals.

But that was in the past, and it is not true any more. Where before even the *kutsero* and the *magsasaka* could manage a halting conversation in English with the foreigner, now the ordinary jeepney driver cannot understand the street signs in what to them is a dead language. The little they know of English they have learned from the television and radio shows and not in school as before. The jingoistic view today is that knowledge of English, which other Asian nations are striving hard to learn, is anti-Filipino.

I am a product of the public school system and remember with pleasure how I studied at the Legarda Elementary School and the Mapa High School and then at the UP on Padre Faura. We didn't have computers then and I suppose the students today are taught more than we learned in our time when life was much simpler and there wasn't as much to understand as the present IT and the quantum theory. I myself don't remember much of what we studied in chemistry and calculus. But I have retained much from the poetry of John Keats, the novels of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Mark Twain, and the wisdom of Cardozo.

The present system of public education in our country is in a sad state of neglect and deterioration. There is a dearth of competent and dedicated teachers, well-prepared textbooks, school buildings, classrooms, and campuses, adequate teaching equipment, and, yes, even of school spirit and pride. The students of the public school believe, and often rightly so, that they are inferior to the private school students who at least enjoy better opportunities for the improvement of their minds and bodies in the more salutary academic atmosphere their parents can afford or try to. The present public school in the Philippines is a poor relation of the affluent private school, where before the comparison was reversed.

One reason for the poor quality of our public school students today is the deleterious influence of show business. The movies, television and radio have conspired to cheapen the sense of values of such students in general and impaired their intellectual and other social virtues. A striking example is the decline of the simple virtue of courtesy, which was taken for granted before but is often a source of wonder now. Our generation was interested in school debates and oratorical contests, but students today would rather watch the vulgar antics of television clowns like Bong Revilla who is a comic first and a senator only second.

Senator Revilla is the current proof of the cheapening of the election process and the degradation of our democracy. He doesn't even have the good taste to honor his position as an elected senator by dissociating it from his tasteless if more remunerative role as a comedian. His undiscriminating audience obviously believes that a good buffoon will make a good senator. That audience should have learned its lesson from the laughable record of Revilla's predecessors but it had to show once again its misguided faith in the inanity of clowns in public service.

I have said often enough that the best way to cure our ailing democracy is to educate our people on the proper exercise of their suffrages. That is why it is imperative that we improve the quality of our schools as a first step toward civic consciousness. This is where we may begin to elevate their present pupils from mindless fans of undeserving harlequins to responsible thinking citizens. They must understand that public office is a serious business and certainly no joke.

Are you listening?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

SOMEONE once told me that there are two signs that one is getting old. The first sign is that one gets to be forgotten. The second is...I forgot!

* * *

In today's Gospel (Lk 18, 1-8), Jesus teaches us to pray continually so that God will take notice, and will not forget. Just as the poor widow moved the judge to give in to her request, so too will God listen to our persistent prayers. God does listen, and He does answer all our prayers even if He delays at times, and often not according to the way we want it. The assurance is there: He is listening, He is in control, we are not alone.

Two frogs fell into a deep cream bowl: The one was wise, and a cheery soul.
The other one took a gloomy view / And bade his friend a sad adieu.
Said the other frog with a merry grin, / "I can't get out, but I won't give in;
I'll swim around till my strength is spent, / Then I will die the more content."
And as he swam, though ever it seemed, / His struggling began to churn the cream
Until on top of pure butter he stopped, / And out of the bowl he quickly hopped.

So there are no hopeless situations, only people (and frogs!) who have grown hopeless about their situations.

* * *

Fr. Charlie de Guzman, SVD, can tell you that persistence does pay. After 30 years, Father Charlie finally made it to the priesthood. He entered Christ the King Seminary in 1974. In 1982, he left the seminary and went to America where he became the vice president for finance of a construction company. All through those years, the desire to become a missionary somehow never died. It was something He could not explain. Through it all, he kept close to Mama Mary. He prayed the rosary every day. Unable to deny the call, he re-entered the SVD seminary in Chicago and was ordained a priest (finally) last June 5, 2004. His mission assignment is Spain. Father Charlie is one of our 130 Filipino SVD missionaries working in some 35 countries all over the world, persistently continuing Christ's mandate to spread the Gospel to all creation.

* * *

My very own Papa is a very good example of humble (not manipulative) persistence. In particular, Papa told us, as children, how he was able to get the hand of Mama in marriage by continually writing to her. Even during World War II, he persisted in his letter-writing. Papa always told us that even if he was an "underdog," he showed his sincerity and goodness through the years, and in the end, Mama chose him from among her suitors. Bravo Papa! Papa's favorite saying through the years is "During trying times, don't stop trying"!

* * *

We can learn from our Muslim brothers and sisters who are not ashamed to pray in public. I and my group recently experienced something like this in transit while we were in the Singapore airport. We were praying the rosary in a quiet corner and there were many people who were edified. In fact, some even joined us. However, there were also those who laughed and even sneered at us, but it was one meaningful experience of persistent witnessing prayer. Have you ever experienced professing your faith to others, especially in unfavorable moments and situations?

* * *

Rio Diaz is one beautiful example of brave and persistent prayer. She who was dying of cancer gave so much hope and meaning to so many people. A lot of beautiful things have been said about Rio and her achievements, but it was husband Charlie who summarized everything so beautifully when he said, "It is not Rio but the grace of God that made it all possible. May God be praised for using Rio and her sickness to give a message of love and hope to all people." Amen!

* * *

Speaking of cancer, my sister-in-law Ditas had her first chemo treatment and began losing her hair recently. I know and I believe that the Lord will listen to our prayers for her. I was so touched when I heard that my 10-year-old nephew Gio told his Dad that both of them should shave off their hair just to be one with his Mom, and so that God will answer their prayers. What a thoughtful child. What a beautiful prayer!

* * *

The cries and the prayers of the poor, the oppressed and the downtrodden are especially heard by God. As God warned Solomon of Old, careful to you who have haughty eyes; have lying tongues; have hands that shed innocent blood; have hearts that devise evil schemes; have feet that are quick to rush to evil; have dishonesty; and have hearts that stir dissensions. Are you any of these? Don't we have an abundance of these in our country? Careful, careful! The cry of the poor is getting louder every day.

* * *

Congratulations to the winners of our Raffle for the Mission last Oct. 1: 1st prize—Menchie Mendez; 2nd prize—Cecilia S. Hata; 3rd prize—Grade VI St. Matthew DWCL; 4th prize—Emma Moises; 5th prize—Eling Lagazo; 6th prize—St. Jude Archdiocesan Shrine; 7th prize—Fania Cariño; 8th prize—Nami Sanchez; 9th prize—Elenita B. Andrade; and 10th prize—Ricci G. Hipe.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:
Lord, I believe, I know that you are always there, and that you are really listening. Amen.

A leadership vacuum in the Armed Forces

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

WHEN a crisis, be it natural or man-made, breaks out in a country, the leader who may be abroad on some mission usually breaks off from all his engagements and returns home immediately to rally his people and to restore confidence and morale among those badly shaken by the disaster.

In the case of Gen. Narciso Abaya, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, in the midst of one of the gravest problems facing the AFP in recent years—perhaps even greater than the threats from the New People's Army or the secessionist forces in the south—he flew off to Tokyo for a defense conference attended by 32 colleagues from the Asia-Pacific region. He left his deputy, Vice Adm. Ariston delos Reyes to face the wrath of a congressional committee which was bent on questioning Maj. Gen. Carlos F. Garcia. The AFP chief of staff returned to Manila last Thursday evening. Did he learn anything from his Tokyo trip which would benefit the AFP? Or was he too busy explaining to his counterparts what was happening in the AFP? Or how a member of his own staff could afford a Trump Park Avenue condominium in New York City? Frankly, if I were AFP chief, I would be embarrassed to attend any foreign conference with other military leaders while hell was breaking loose on the home front. Perhaps, Abaya felt that the scandal was just a tempest in a teapot or he was hoping that things would blow over while he was away. But as President George W. Bush would taunt his Democratic opponent, Sen. John F. Kerry in their recent debates, "You can run but you can't hide."

These days, the favorite target of congressional investigations is, of course, Major General Garcia. (I use the rank because there are other Garcias in the news and we have to differentiate between the two.) But if you think about it seriously, Garcia is, in a manner of speaking, finished. His reputation is in tatters; his assets have been frozen here and in the United States, and even his green card has been cancelled. His health is in precarious condition, and he faces prosecution and possible imprisonment. At this point, his best option is to hire a hotshot criminal lawyer who will delay the legal proceedings until things cool down. He obviously has the money for the best lawyers in town as well as the finest medical practitioners in the business. And we are a people with brief attention spans and short memories. I doubt if he is going to make more enemies by spilling the names of people who may have been his associates in the money-making machine that he developed and perfected. Nevertheless, one should keep in mind that Garcia could not have done what he is accused of doing, all by his lonesome.

I have always held that our criminal justice system works reasonably well particularly in cases involving rape. Just remember former Rep. Romeo Jalosjos, Calauan Mayor Antonio Sanchez, the Chiong sisters of Cebu, the Vizconde murders and in the past, actress Maggie dela Riva. In fact, most of the men on death row awaiting lethal injection are convicted rapists. But when it comes to graft and corruption, this is where the system falters. In rape cases, there is physical violence and personal violation involved. In corruption cases, there are no specific victims and usually no violence; and without the political will of the state, these cases end up unresolved. We often talk about "big fishes" being caught, but the sad truth is, when the charges are related to graft and corruption, there are really no "big fishes" in Muntinlupa, only small ones. The truly big fishes have all the money in the world to circumvent the justice system.

While Garcia is the subject of most media reports, we should also focus our attention on another aspect of the current crisis. There is now a dangerous leadership vacuum in the Armed Forces which, if left untended, could lead to grave repercussions. As in politics, whenever there is a perceived weakness in the leadership, there are groups of individuals, some well-meaning, waiting to step in to exploit the unrest and instability. The junior officers who participated in the Oakwood mutiny have been proven right. Their methods may have been wrong but their grievances were valid and legitimate. Obviously the reforms that were supposed to have been put in place because of this mutiny were useless and ineffective since the scandal which has just erupted continued under the present leadership. It was only when US Customs authorities brought the matter to the attention of the Ombudsman did the AFP react. Unless concrete measures are taken to address grievances in the service, there will be more Oakwood mutinies on our hands.

Someone said that the single most important role of the leader is "setting an example." In any organization, the leader is the ultimate role model and the leader who sets the right example has the greatest credibility and influence among the people who work with him. The great task at hand of the commander in chief, President Macapagal Arroyo—perhaps the most important appointment of her young presidency—is to select the right man for the AFP leadership. He must be someone who can inspire and lead the officers and men back to the path of courage and sacrifice and not in pursuit of material benefits and comfort. He must be able to challenge the status quo and make the tough decisions which we know have to be made if we are to institute meaningful and lasting reforms. Most important of all, he must be the ultimate role model for our men and women in uniform.

Arbet's case is GMA's 'highest priority'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

I HAD flown to Cebu Friday to take part in the multi-sectoral indignation rally protesting the murder of human rights lawyer Arbet Sta. Ana-Yongco and demanding that her murderer, as well as the mastermind, be brought to justice at the soonest possible time.

What I didn't count on was meeting President Macapagal-Arroyo at Arbet's wake. Meeting with a small group of Cebu-based women last Thursday, the President was asked if she could drop by Arbet's wake and meet with her family, who understandably were devastated by her killing.

The President arrived shortly after noon that day, accompanied by, among others, Tourism Secretary Ace Durano and presidential adviser Dodie Limcaoco. The President stayed for nearly an hour, and in response to the plea of Arbet's family and friends that she help speed up the investigation into Arbet's killing, assured them that she was giving the case "the top priority." As if to demonstrate her resolve, the President then had Philippine National Police regional commander Gen. Rolando Garcia and National Bureau of Investigation regional director Reynaldo Esmeralda called.

Arbet's friends in Cebu's legal community and civil society had complained that law enforcement agencies seemed to be at loggerheads in the investigation and had been issuing conflicting statements. Lawyer Liza Corro, president of the Fida Cebu chapter, had taken on the responsibility of coordinating with the different investigating bodies and the President called on her as well for a briefing. According to those listening to the exchange, the President then "ordered" Garcia and Esmeralda to "follow the women" and keep them all informed about developments on the case.

The President also called Secretary Durano and asked him to coordinate all the efforts to help Arbet's survivors, including scholarships for Arbet's orphaned children—Arfil, 11, David, 6 and Fia, 3—which I overheard Limcaoco negotiating over a cell phone. I hope all these plans push through, the response of a grateful nation for Arbet's supreme sacrifice.

* * *

THE MARCH and rally—from Fuente Osmeña to the front of the provincial capitol—drew a truly eclectic and diverse crowd. From lawyers in their *barongs* and power suits, to community women in T-shirts and work clothes, the participants were a walking, yelling, clenched fist-raising testimony to the number of people whom Arbet had helped through the years.

Democrito Barcenas, president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Cebu City chapter, drew cheers from the crowd when he pledged that 100 lawyers would be present on the first day of the hearing of the parricide case against Ruben Ecleo Jr., in which Arbet had served as private prosecutor and for which reason, many in Cebu suspect, Arbet was so treasonously gunned down.

But the trial will have to wait awhile. The judge handling the case, the fifth in line, has just abstained from the case, and so the hearings will have to be raffled anew, which means the trial will have to start from scratch.

But Tess Fernandez, chair of Lihok Pilipina Foundation, noted that while the presence of a hundred lawyers taking Arbet's place in the Ecleo case would surely make a powerful statement, other lawyers will also have to take her place in other pro bono cases that she was handling before she was shot.

We can only hope that the response of Cebu's legal community to Arbet's murder has opened the eyes of lawyers in Cebu and elsewhere to the need for them to leave their "comfort zones" once in a while and bring the law to the service of those most in need.

* * *

REMINDER: In observance of the ninth day of prayers for Arbet, Pilipina, Abanse! Pinay, Alternative Lawyers' Group (ALG) and the Women and Gender Committee of the Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines (WGC-AMRSP) and other civil society organizations will hold a Mass and testimonial in memory of Arbet and other victims of brutal killings on Tuesday, Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the UP Philippine General Hospital Chapel, Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez and Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes, among other government officials, are expected to attend the services.

Similar memorial services, as well as indignation rallies, have been held and will be held by Pilipina and Abanse! Pinay in other parts of the country where they have chapters, as well as by other organizations that Arbet was part of or assisted.

At Arbet's wake, I also had the privilege of personally meeting the other members of her family, especially her mother Betty. She had one request, a clarification of the impression created in the column on "Arbet's story" that she was a completely self-supporting student while she was in college. "I also helped her," Mrs. Sta. Ana clarified, "I had saved some money for her and my other children's (her son Nathan and daughter Fede) college education, because education was very important to me and my family." Mrs. Sta. Ana is a retired schoolteacher who chose to stay behind in their hometown of Allen, Northern Samar, even if her children had relocated to Cebu and Hong Kong.

Another correction: the Women's Solidarity for Justice, whose statement on Arbet's killing was run in full in this space yesterday, was founded some years ago in the wake of the kidnap-slaying of the Chiong sisters, another crime that cries to the heavens for justice, and not just after Arbet's murder. The Chiongs remain strongly committed to seeking justice for their daughters. In fact, Thelma Chiong not only helped found the Women's Solidarity for Justice, she has also become vice president of the victims' rights group, Crusade against Violence.

The poor among us

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

I DON'T believe in charity. I suspect we often do it more for ourselves than for those we help. I also think it takes away the urgency from the need to reform society itself. But, in practice, I have trouble ignoring those who come to my door or knock on my car window for help.

My problem is particularly with those who not only extend their hands for alms but also take time to tell their stories. I don't like looking into the defeated eyes of those who, by begging, have surrendered every measure of their pride as human beings.

"Give no bounties, make equal laws, secure life and property," advised Emerson, "and you need not give alms. Open the doors of opportunity to talent and virtue and they will do themselves justice, and property will not be in bad hands. In a free and just commonwealth, property rushes from the idle and imbecile to the industrious, brave and persevering." Emerson is right. But ours has never been a just commonwealth. I refuse to think that the poor in our society are poor because they lack industry, bravery and perseverance.

I cannot forget being rebuffed by a young boy in his teens who was selling flannel cleaning cloth in the streets. "Eight for a hundred," he chanted, fixing his eyes on me. "I just need to sell one more set before I go to school," he said in a tone of exhaustion. Indeed, he was in a school uniform. "Sorry, I just bought some the other day," I responded with genuine regret, "but here take these," I said, offering him a couple of peso coins. He looked at me unsmiling, and chided me with these words: "Sir, I am not begging, I am selling." I felt slighted. I wanted to tell him that I meant well and that he should not be so proud. But, I checked myself: why shouldn't he be proud? As he walked away, I silently rejoiced in the thought that at least one boy in the streets would someday make it in the world.

Since then I have been very cautious in dealing with hawkers and beggars in the streets. Whether I give or not, buy or not, I make it a point to look at the face before me, as an act of recognition. It is the least I can do for another human being. "The face speaks," the philosopher Levinas writes. It communicates its vulnerability at once: "there is an essential poverty in the face; the proof of this is that one tries to mask this poverty by putting on poses, by taking on a countenance."

Recognition, however, triggers a relationship, whose ethics I do not easily navigate. To this day, being in the presence of a person begging for help always produces in me a profound unease. I feel defenseless and trapped; this man is not my responsibility, I tell myself, but why can't I ignore him? He is one of us, that is why, and no Filipino should live without hope, or go without help when he needs it. He is my responsibility, and the concreteness of his situation mocks the abstractness of everything I write or espouse. I have no right to require a rational accounting of a man's despair before I give help.

A little context might explain these musings. About three weeks ago, a frail young man came to my house and introduced himself as Angelo. Though his face was vaguely familiar, I was quite sure I had not met him before. He said he used to work as a contractual janitor at the Palma Hall building in the UP Diliman campus where I teach. He told me that his daughter had been bitten in the head by a rabid dog and needed expensive anti-rabies shots. He said he had been able to raise P700 and he needed P300 more. I felt very sorry for this young father, a picture of desolation and shame. He had been jobless for a while, he said. I hardly said anything; I gave him the money and wished him well.

Angelo showed up again the other day, a little paler than before. Before I could recognize him, he shook my hand. He said he had come to inform me that his daughter had died. She needed more injections and he had been unable to raise the money to buy the expensive shots. I looked at him in disbelief, wondering how many times things like this happen in our hospitals. He had come this time to ask for some money to buy biscuits and coffee for people at the wake. For some strange reason, I instantly thought of all the billions spent during elections, the trillions paid for the public debt, and the distressing state of our public hospitals.

Perhaps Angelo's desperation was infectious; I suddenly felt agitated and angry. I found myself grilling him about the hospital to which he had brought his daughter and the doctor who attended to her. I asked him if he had sought the help of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, or the Philippine Charity and Sweepstakes Office. My reaction confused him. He looked at me with sad uncomprehending eyes, and I realized I had not even offered him my sympathies. When he left, I knew I had behaved very badly. I don't remember how much I gave him. I could have given him all the money in my pocket that day, and it would not have erased the unwarranted pain I had caused him.

I wish I knew when to stop being a social analyst or a political activist. The man had come seeking compassion, and I gave him a lecture and an interrogation. Too often, I think we fail to conduct ourselves as human beings for others because our moral or ideological righteousness gets in the way of our basic responsibility.

Every poor man who comes to us begging for help has a story to tell. We may never know how much truth there is in these tales. But does it really matter? In such encounters I think we must keep our doubts to ourselves, not say anything, and only listen. Levinas sums it up with this line from Dostoyevsky: "We are all responsible for all and for all men before all, and I more than all the others."

* * *

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

Electoral college tie?

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

HONOLULU—Everyone thought the 2000 US presidential election was wild. It was not only wild but upsetting, if you were a supporter of Democratic contender Al Gore. He won the popular vote by more than half a million, but failed to capture the electoral vote by losing Florida to Republican candidate George W. Bush, who won the Florida popular mandate by only 500 votes! And all because of the "butterfly ballot" fiasco, in which voters, especially the elderly, got confused on which side of the ballot they should be voting on. Also, there was the case of the "hanging chads" from the ballots, which made it impossible to count them as clear votes. By snagging Florida, Bush as a result won 271 electoral votes, just one over what was needed to win; and Gore was awarded 267 votes.

Many believe that the 2004 general election may even be wilder. And that it might be Florida again, a major swing state, which will deliver the presidency to whoever wins its popular vote. Or probably Ohio. Or Wisconsin. It could even be Iowa. Who knows?

The race is so tight and has been swinging wildly after every major event, especially the presidential debates. Before the debates, Bush, enjoying a "bounce" from the Republican Convention in New York, was ahead of John Kerry by some 6-8 percent. After the second debate, it became a dead heat 48-46 in favor of Kerry. After the third debate, the pundits called the contest "a sprint to the finish."

The pre-debates calculation was that Bush was leading in the electoral vote race, though both candidates were and still are, at this writing, short of the magic 270 electoral votes needed to win. Bush has 217 votes from 25 states, according to an analysis by Ron Fournier of Associated Press, based on state-by-state polls and interviews with political strategists across the country. Kerry, on the other hand, has 14 states and the District of Columbia in his column for a total of 193 votes, thus trailing Bush but not by much.

So, according to the AP analysis, the 11 states considered the "swing states," which have a combined total of 128 votes, will spell the margin of victory. Whoever wins the popular vote in these states will automatically get the electoral college votes in a winner-take-all scheme.

Of these 11, Florida, Ohio, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Wisconsin, Michigan and West Virginia are the toughest battleground states. If Kerry remains an underdog at 193 electoral votes, he needs another 77 to win. That's why he needs to win the swingest of the swing states with relatively more electoral votes—Ohio, Florida, Wisconsin, Michigan and Iowa.

But, according to Fournier, Kerry's best prospects may lie in the five swing states won by Bush in 2000: Ohio, Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire and West Virginia. Ohio, which has 20 electoral votes, and Florida with 27 are "must win" states for either Bush or Kerry, but especially Kerry. However, Florida is probably going to the Bush camp if only because his brother is the governor there. Bush has also visited the state more than 25 times, so he is expected to have a lot of supporters there. He also won Ohio in 2000, but the the state's lagging economy makes it a toss-up.

Kerry has strategized his campaign to woo Republican-leaning North Carolina by choosing the state's US Sen. John Edwards as his running mate. North Carolina is not really considered a "swing state," but both camps are not ignoring its 15 electoral votes, not insignificant in a close race. Bush swept the southern states in 2000.

What if there's a tie in the electoral vote: Bush 269 and Kerry 269? It is highly unlikely but not impossible. Political science professor Larry Sabato at the University of Virginia says, "Look, 269 to 269 is far from absurd." He continues, "There could be a Bush-Edwards incoming administration." Really now, isn't that even more absurd?

No, insists Sabato. It happened before—this electoral college tie. In 1800, the US House of Representatives took 36 votes to settle a draw between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr by making Jefferson president. "You can bet an accidental Bush-Edwards victory would quickly turn the vice-presidency from powerful to puny," Sabato adds.

In case of a 2004 electoral college draw, the new House of Representatives, under the Constitution, would elect the president by majority vote, with each state's House delegation getting one vote. The US Senate would elect the new vice president by majority vote, with each senator getting one vote. The bottom line in this deadlocked scenario is that, if the Democrats gain two Senate seats in this year's election, the body could pick Edwards, of course—not Dick Cheney, the Republican vice-presidential candidate.

To extend this analysis, if the House votes in a Democratic majority, Kerry would be chosen president. And if the Republicans get a Senate majority, Cheney could get chosen vice president. Either combination will really be wild.

Again, either scenario is certain to be improbable, but wild if it happens. Interesting, isn't it? You might ask, as I've often asked, why don't they just abolish the electoral college and simplify everything by just doing the popular vote? It's obsolete, it confuses people, and so on. Easier said than done. It's like asking a very religious person not to believe in God anymore. You cannot just toss out a great political tradition. It might have outlived its usefulness in ensuring fairness in elections, but it has become a hallowed tradition in the last 200 years.

But time will probably come for that change because the majority of young people, Americans at that, don't even understand this electoral college system. I have great difficulty making my students over the years understand the logic behind it. The state of Colorado is trying to change the formula for the electoral vote distribution based on the popular vote totals, not winner-take-all, in a proposed referendum.

In the end, it's probably the 5 percent so-called "undecideds on election day" who will deliver the magic number. Many veteran pollsters have indicated that a full 5 percent of voters who intend to vote make up their minds only when they reach their polling booths. Apparently, there's another estimated 5 percent who make up their minds only during the last week of the election. So, in this hotly contested race with no clear winner in sight, it's only a matter of a few precious days, if not right down the wire, that we will know.

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Food for all: Can we achieve it? (2)

REACTING to the article "Hunger stalks the country's food basket" in last week's issue of Talk of the Town, a group has proposed a plan to eradicate in 10 years rural poverty in Mindanao where about a quarter of households have been found to suffer from hunger.

Kasanyangan Mindanao Foundation, Inc. (KFI) disagrees with the claim of Alternate Forum for Research in Mindanao (Afrim) that the drive of agribusiness to produce cash crops like banana, pineapple and palm oil for the export market has contributed to poverty and chronic hunger on the island.

KFI identifies low productivity in rice, corn and coconut lands as the main cause of poverty in rural households.

Expanding agribusiness as practiced by the multinational firms Dole and Del Monte to six million hectares of agricultural land and applying the strategy to coffee, rubber, mango, native bananas, vegetables, soya beans, livestock, dairy and cotton could wipe out poverty, according to the foundation.

In its riposte, Afrim says that the problem with agribusiness is that everything is placed at the control of the transnational corporations and the big Filipino companies, which appropriate the profits.

Not mentioned in the debate is the fact that agribusiness promotes monocropping that is heavily dependent on costly chemical fertilizers, pesticides and machinery. Monocropping also relies on the intensive use of energy, especially oil.

Increases in productivity have come at a huge cost—soil erosion, pollution, elimination of the family farm, concentration of land, among others. In addition, studies have shown that Western-style agriculture is not sustainable.

Agribusiness can wipe out rural poverty

By Ibarra A. Malonzo

As a loyal Mindanaoan, I share Billy de la Rosa's sense of outrage in his article "Hunger stalks the country's food basket" in Talk of the Town on Oct. 10, referring to Mindanao where a third of the population lives below the poverty line and go to sleep starving half the year.

I also agree with his conclusion that government, rather than giving out food coupons to solve mass hunger, should take a strategic approach by hastening the peace process and re-examining its agricultural policies.

But I disagree with the analysis of De la Rosa, executive director of AFRIM, that the cause of widespread poverty is "export-oriented agribusiness strategy." On the contrary, it's the absence of a well-rounded agribusiness strategy that addresses local, national and global markets, that is the bane of agriculture. Most of the country's agriculture and forestry lands are still in a subsistence mode of development.

It is not clear, though, what De la Rosa is objecting to. Is it the export destination of crops, or their being high-value crops, or the involvement of big agribusiness corporations, or is it the whole agribusiness strategy? He singles out "pineapple, bananas, oil palm and other high-value crops" as prime examples of the grievous error of replacing lands planted to food staples such as rice with these high-value crops.

What, in fact, is the impact of these crops on Mindanao's farmlands and economy? Out of six million hectares of agricultural lands, commercial pineapple and bananas for export take up only 70,000 hectares. In 2000, 30,000 hectares of pineapple plantations made $140 million in export earnings equivalent to P257,000 per hectare. In the same year, 40,000 hectares planted to export bananas earned $245 million equivalent to P335,000 per hectare.

In comparison, irrigated rice lands yield an average of 4,000 kilos of *palay* per hectare valued at P40,000. Irrigated and rain-fed rice lands total a million hectares with the latter having lower yields. Mindanao has 2 million of the country's 3.5 million hectares of coconut lands that yield an average of one ton of copra per hectare per year. At the current price of P20 per kilo, this amounts to P20,000 per hectare yearly. Likewise, Mindanao has a million hectares planted to corn with an average yield of 2.5 tons per hectare per year valued at P20,000 at current prices.

Rice, corn and coconut lands in Mindanao total 4 million hectares with an average annual yield of P25,000 per hectare. With an average of 1.5 hectares, a farming household's gross income amounts to P37,500 yearly, or a net of P16,450 half of which goes to production costs. Add P20,000 from other income sources, thus raising the farming household income to P36,450, which is half of the poverty line of P70,000.

Main cause of poverty

Low productivity of corn, rice and other farmlands is the main cause of poverty in rural households.

On the other hand, 70,000 hectares of pineapple and bananas easily create 280,000 jobs, of which 70,000 are in direct employment and the remainder, in auxiliary employment, servicing requirements of the plantations, factories and workers' communities (e.g. education, mechanics, shops). The 70,0000 workers directly employed as workers in banana and pineapple plantations earn twice the average minimum daily mandated wage. This does not include the income of landowners most of whom are agrarian reform beneficiaries.

Dole and Del Monte do not own a single piece of agricultural land. Dole leases 8,500 hectares from DARBCI (Dole Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative, Inc.), which also manages a 200-hectare pineapple plantation as grower and sells its products to Dole. Dole also engages in pineapple growership covering 3,000 hectares of small farmlands that are consolidated farms managed by cooperatives. The yield of cooperative growers in Dole equals, if not exceed, the average yield of plantations directly managed by Dole.

Del Monte, on the other hand, leases 6,000 hectares from DEARBCI (Del Monte Employees Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative, Inc.) and leases the rest from other small landowners.

Dole-Stanfilco banana plantations in Davao have all been covered by agrarian reform and are now under growership agreements between Dole-Stanfilco and beneficiaries-turned-growers. Former plantation workers turned beneficiaries own an average of not more than one hectare. Many beneficiaries earn as much as P100,000 a year in net income from a hectare of land, excluding wages if they work.

Palm oil

Let's turn to palm oil. We have only 20,000 hectares of oil palm plantations categorized thus: 15,000 hectares fruit-bearing and 5,000 hectares of immature trees. The productive 15,000 hectares generate 50 tons of crude palm oil and palm kernel oil yearly valued at $25 million. These are refined into cooking oil and consumed locally, saving our economy $25 million in imports.

Still we import 150,000 tons of palm oil and by-products yearly worth $75 million. A noted agricultural economist believes the country, in fact, imports twice this amount. By this reckoning, we need 150,000 hectares of oil palm plantations today to save $150 million in imports.

Why do we import palm oil instead of consuming our own coconut oil? The reason is that coco oil is more expensive than palm oil by 30 percent on the world market. Fast food chains and food manufacturers prefer to use the cheaper palm oil.

What if the government follows De la Rosa's food first policy and stops the export of coco oil? Seventy percent of coco oil is now exported. The price of copra will plunge to P5 a kilo, giving the farmer a gross income of P5,000 per hectare a year. Farmers will not harvest their coconuts at this price. They would rather cut their trees for sale as coco lumber but there will be no buyers for this volume of coco wood.

Should President Macapagal-Arroyo follow De la Rosa's prescription of food first and no to coco oil exports, the 2 million coconut farmers will most probably burn their 3.5 million hectares of coconut lands (2.1 million of which are in Mindanao) in protest and Malacañang, Congress and the Supreme Court will not be spared the farmers' wrath.

Expand agribusiness

I submit that the problem of Mindanao's widespread poverty and hunger is not brought about by export-oriented agribusiness strategy. Instead we should spread the application of Dole and Del Monte's agribusiness strategy to the six million hectares of agricultural lands, most of which are marginal and unproductive. Contrary to popular perception, agribusiness strategy can be applied to small family farms as well as to corporate estates.

By applying hybrid agricultural technology employed by Bukidnon farmers on 50,000 hectares of corn lands, we can easily raise the yield to four tons per hectare. With four million tons of corn in Mindanao, we will have enough corn to cover the deficit of one million tons that we import yearly. There will still be two million tons left to export.

Market solutions

By planting the Philippine Coconut Authority "sinvar" (synthetic cultivar from nine cultivars) and following its fertilization and maintenance protocols, coconut will yield four tons of copra per year. We can supply all the world's requirements of coco oil. If we go into downstream manufacture of higher-priced products such as shampoo, soap, lotion and facial cream, not to mention the miraculous virgin oil, the Philippines can give the Malaysian oil palm industry a run for its money.

The same agribusiness strategy can be applied to coffee, rubber, mango, native bananas (*kardaba, lakatan, latundan, señorita*, etc.), vegetables, soya beans, livestock, dairy, cotton, all of which are being imported in great volumes because of our poor productivity. We can then wipe out rural poverty in 10 years.

What do I mean by agribusiness strategy? It is applying science and technology to farming and market solutions to agriculture. It involves organizing and managing the supply chain from production (farm machinery, seeds, breeds, technology, credit) to post-harvest (dryers, silos, slaughterhouses, refrigerated vans) to manufacture (flour and feed mills, corn flake factories) to transport (ships, ports, trucks, and Ro-Ro) and, finally, marketing to deliver the goods to end-users or customers.

Agribusiness strategy is the opposite of subsistence and marginal farming prevalent in Philippine agriculture and the principal cause of poverty and hunger in Mindanao.

Union busting

Agribusiness practice in the Philippines is not all sweetness and light. From 35 years of trade union work among corporate plantation workers in Mindanao, I personally know of the prevalence of union busting and labor exploitation by agribusiness corporations.

I also know from 15 years' experience working in agrarian reform in Mindanao's plantations how corporations have made a mockery of agrarian reform through leaseback agreements.

One palm oil corporation has such an agreement on 8,000 hectares of oil palm plantation lands at rentals less than 5 percent of the value of farm gate production, that is, P3,000 per hectare per year out of a produce of P60,000 per hectare. But such abominable practices do not negate the value of corporations' contribution to raise land productivity and incomes of workers and farmers.

I also have my beef against government's agricultural policies in Mindanao. Not that they are wrong, but these policies, in the main, consist of cheap and meaningless words.

I support the ambitious goal of the President to develop two to three million hectares of land into agribusiness over the next six years. But my question is, how will the President back up her words with deeds?

(Ibarra A. Malonzo is the president of Kasanyangan Mindanao Foundation, Inc. [KFI], a Zamboanga City-based group advocating agrarian reform and rural development. KFI supports progressive contract farming arrangement with Agusan Milling Corp., which produces palm oil in Trento, Agusan del Sur as well as with Mindanao Grains Corp. in Aglayan, Bukidnon and with Dole Philippines in Polomolok, South Cotabato.)

RP's top food imports and exports (in million US dollars)

	2001	2002	2003
Imports			
Wheat	427	487	398
Dairy products	435	351	389
Rice	137	212	153
Fruits and vegetables	122	107	101
Corn	26	49	20
Exports			
Coconut oil	418	353	505
Bananas (fresh)	297	309	333
Fish, fresh and preserve	287	298	291
Shrimps and prawns	124	139	125
Canned pineapple	91	82	84

SOURCE: BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS-SELECTED PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES
PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

Corporate farming won't ease hunger in Mindanao

By Billy de la Rosa

There are agribusiness strategies and agribusiness strategies. Certainly, the one spearheaded by government and the landlord-transnational combine in Mindanao hasn't eradicated poverty and hunger in Mindanao. One hopes that this is not the one being defended by Ibarra Malonzo. I hope I'm right to think that he is not saying that poverty and hunger in Mindanao are due to the fact that there is not enough of the kind of agribusiness that is now being promoted in the country's food basket.

If one goes by the numbers that he presents, agribusiness is indeed the way to go. But what he fails to mention is that transnationals and Filipino agribusiness capitalists are the ones who appropriate the profits. Policy makers and government regulators have done little to protect the rights of the small farmer in agribusiness contracts. This was what I was referring to when I said that the promised prosperity in agribusiness had not been realized for many Mindanaoans despite the untold wealth that was created by agribusiness.

Leaseback arrangement

The same export numbers had been cited by agribusiness companies to justify their anti-agrarian reform position. They say that agrarian reform will destroy the economies of scale of plantations. To circumvent the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), companies like Dole and Del Monte invented the leaseback scheme in which plantations covered by CARP were immediately leased back to the company for extended periods—some up to 60 years—at amounts that would make the word pittance spell generous.

Malonzo mentions the oil palm plantation in Agusan as guilty of this and goes on to admit that plantation companies operating in Mindanao are among the worst violators of workers' rights. He was quick, however, to say that these practices do not negate the value of the corporations' contribution to productivity and incomes.

But these practices are precisely what keep Mindanao and its people poor. And this is precisely the brand of agribusiness being promoted by the current administration in the name of promoting the food basket policy. I hope that by challenging President Macapagal-Arroyo to back up her words with deeds, Malonzo does not want her to do a Marcos by declaring huge areas of land under government ownership and leasing these to agribusiness companies—Filipino or foreign—just like what he did for oil palm in Agusan and bananas in Davao del Norte.

Company control

I agree with Malonzo that there is an urgent need to re-examine agricultural policy for Mindanao. There is nothing wrong with vertical integration and value addition as he defines it in the article. The question is, who controls and who benefits from agribusiness? What is terribly wrong with the agribusiness strategy as it is currently implemented is that everything is placed at the control of the companies—the same ones that had been notorious for their anti-people practices, which Malonzo fought against in his days in the labor movement.

The Philippines should develop an agro-industrial policy that answers its own needs, and not one that follows (*gaya gaya*) what companies from other countries want us to do.

Take the case of the administration's oil palm plantation promotion program. Palm oil started as a low quality vegetable oil, which was described by some industry experts as similar to automatic transmission fluid of automobiles in color and smell. But, because of the effort and resources which Malaysia put in research and development, it is now the world's premier traded oil.

Within a few short decades, it has overtaken by leaps and bounds the Philippines' coconut oil in importance in the global markets of vegetable oils. Because it pioneered in palm oil research and development, Malaysia now stands as the world's palm oil king, controlling its technology and markets. Now, its companies are promoting the development of oil palm plantations in countries with similar climate as a strategy to make it the dominant oil worldwide, overtaking soya oil. Malaysian companies are looking for partners to provide land for oil palm plantations in Mindanao.

The lessons of palm oil's success seem to be lost on the country's policy makers. Coconut has declined in the world market because, unlike Malaysia, the Philippines did not invest in research and development. Today, we would rather ride on Malaysia's success than pioneer in coconut research and development.

PCA for palm oil

The Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) is being mobilized to promote oil palm expansion rather than its original mandate to promote the coconut industry. This is tantamount to throwing away the country's leadership in the world's coconut industry.

What Mindanao needs is an agricultural policy that begins and ends with people.

Not too long ago, Marcos took 8,000 hectares of land from settlers and *lumads* in Agusan del Sur and gave it to a Malaysian company to develop an oil palm plantation.

Lost Command

Driven out of their land, the people went straight into the waiting arms of the communist rebels. To defend the plantation, the company hired the services of the notorious Lost Command. Thus, started the spiral of violence in Agusan del Sur.

Today, calling oil palm the "tree of peace," government is promoting oil palm plantation expansion in all parts of Mindanao. Indigenous communities have started to complain about violation of their rights in the course of plantation expansion in their ancestral domain.

Is this the type of agribusiness that will bring prosperity to the people of Mindanao?

(Billy de la Rosa is executive director of the Alternate Forum for Research in Mindanao [Afrim], a research and advocacy organization based in Davao City.)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
A17

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Basilan sheds off its image as Abu-Sayyaf ravaged island

MALUSO, Basilan—US Ambassador to the Philippines Francis Ricciardone noted the transformation of this province from an Abu Sayyaf-ravaged island to a growing economic hub in Mindanao.

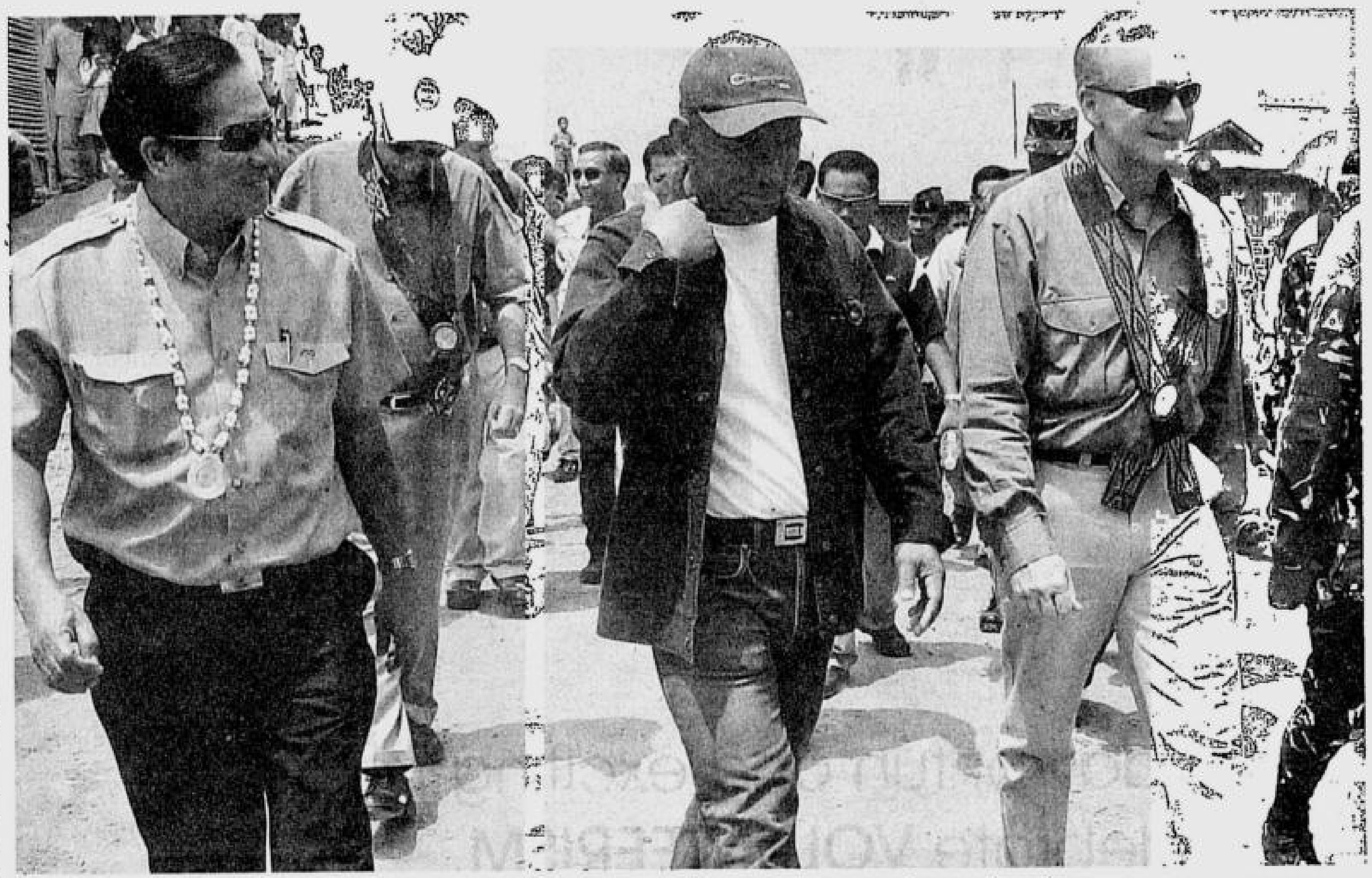
"From the looks of it, Basilan is transformed. That's what we have hoped, a combination of development assistance, working with the local government units, government agencies, non-government organizations and with the wise work of the AFP that judiciously used their force against the bad elements," Ricciardone told reporters here Wednesday.

The US ambassador visited Maluso town where a port improvement is being implemented by the Growth Equity in Mindanao (GEM) thru USAID funding.

"The economy is coming up. Projects like these are intended to connect the islands, to connect the economy and the people prosper," he said.

Carlos Tan, the GEM's deputy program manager on infrastructure, told the INQUIRER that their projects are focused mostly on conflict affected areas in Mindanao, particularly in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Andrew Nastios, the USAID administrator, said Basilan has the biggest share of GEM-USAID community level projects in Mindanao. Of the 700 projects introduced and accomplished, Basilan got 200.



RICCIARDONE, with Gov. Wahab Akbar (center), visits Basilan which he described as a most improved province. TROY MALCOLM/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

"We are here to emphasize this pledge and help to the Philippine government and help them to stabilize peace," Nastios said.

Gov. Wahab Akbar said the province has placed 18th nationwide for revenue collection this year.

"We have been tagged before as the 20th poorest province in the country. Now we are surviving and growing," Akbar said.

ARMM Gov. Parouk Hussin also said that ARMM, known for its negative image as the "most troubled spot in the country, has become one of the provinces with the lowest crime rate based on the statistics of the Philippine National Police." *Julie Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Execs hit delay in taxes by dam owner

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Local officials lamented the delay in the payment of taxes and other fees by the operator of the Casecnan Multi-Purpose Irrigation and Power Project in Alfonso Castañeda town.

Lawyer Epifanio Galima Sr., provincial legal consultant, said communities that host the CMIPP have yet to receive returns from the project, three years after its completion in 2001.

Legal questions have since prevented the provincial government, the Alfonso Castañeda government and local villages to receive payment as host communities of the CMIPP, in the form of national wealth share, and real property, franchise and business taxes, Galima said.

"It's quite sad because we are now faced with these obstacles. Within that time (three years), many people could have benefited if only these (fees) were paid religiously," he said.

The CMIPP is a P400-million power and irrigation project of the American firm California Energy (CE)-Casecnan, which was built through a 25-year build-operate-transfer deal with the government in 1995.

It was intended to provide irrigation to 50,000 hectares of ricelands in Central Luzon, and to generate 140 megawatts of electricity for the Luzon energy grid.

The entire structure consists of two water impounding weirs in Barangay Pelaway in Alfonso Castañeda, which divert water flow from the Casecnan and Taan rivers through a 26-km tunnel across the Nueva Vizcaya-Nueva Ecija border, and to the power plant in Barangay Villarica in Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija.

According to Galima, the province's claim for the collection of the national wealth share remained unresolved, with a case pending before the regional trial court here.

The provincial government has asked the court to declare the province as a host community, citing provisions of the Local Government Code and the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira) of 2000.

Gov. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma said she was optimistic that once the legal issues were resolved, CE-Casecnan would pay its obligations, citing the recent pledge made by Raymund Cunningham, CE Casecnan general manager. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

26 employees of water agency sacked for joining rally

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—The Leyte Metropolitan Water District (LMWD) has dismissed its 26 employees and suspended two others for joining a rally in February staged by militant groups against the management.

The employees, who held various positions at the LMWD, received the termination and suspension orders on Tuesday afternoon, an hour before they were about to go home.

All were members of the Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employees (Courage)-Eastern Visayas, a militant organization composed of government employees.

Ricky Palencia, Courage secretary general in Eastern Visayas, and one of those sacked by LMWD, said they were shocked when they received the order from management.

"The notice of suspension and termination was served to us without due notice," he told the INQUIRER, adding that it was "arbitrary and a violation of their rights to peaceably assembly."

The group tried to report for work yesterday morning but was barred from entering the LMWD office.

Aside from Palencia, dismissed were Owen Adona, Roberto Anota, Benjamin Badilla, Armando Baino, Jorge Baino, Arsenio Blente, Gonzalo Caidic, Reynaldo Camalig, Renato Dael, Bernardo Deveras, Efren Francisco, Nilo Kintana, Angel Lacdao, Tomas Macapanas, Daryl Makabenta, Rolando Mercado, Alfonso Modesto, Virgilio Pelino, Gerardo Perez, Rodrigo Quimbo, Jorge Rosel, Ruel Sorila, Jovito Susaya, Fauto Teraza and Reynaldo Tolibas.

Antonio Mercado and Reynaldo Silao were suspended after the 11-man committee that conducted the investigation gave weight to their claim that they just joined the group and did not even know what the rally was all about.

Lawyer Vicente Opinion, LMWD legal consultant, said their suspension may range from one to six months, depending on the discretion of LMWD manager Ranulfo Feliciano.

The order stemmed from the rally staged by some militant groups in Tacloban on Feb. 5 at the LMWD main office on Mabini Street here, questioning the plan of LMWD to increase its water rates by 10 percent.

The adjustment was implemented in June, which affected the LMWD's more than 25,000 concessionaires covering the towns of Palo, Tanauan, Dagami, Pastrana, Tanauan and this city.

During the rally, the protesters also demanded the ouster of Feliciano whom they accused of mismanagement, an allegation which he strongly denied.

But Palencia told the INQUIRER that they joined the rally to demand the release of their uniform allowance, which had not been released since 2001.

The allowance ranges from P3,000 to P4,000, depending on the position of the employee.

But LMWD assistant manager Eulalio Maderazo said the decision against 28 employees was not done in haste because a committee was formed to study what particular action be meted on them.

PHILIPINE INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY

The Philippine International Trading Corporation (PITC) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and submit proposal for the following services:

NATIONWIDE MARKETING & DISTRIBUTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

Applicants must meet all the following qualifications:
1. Licensed BFAD Drug Importer and Drug Distributor
2. Extensive experience in the pharmaceutical industry (multinational & local companies.
3. With at least three years experience in nationwide multinational and local pharmaceutical distribution.
4. With existing distribution network/centers nationwide
5. Capable of managing/expanding retail outlets nationwide
6. Computerized Invoicing/Warehousing/Inventory management systems
7. With Marketing/Advertising capabilities
8. Sound training modules (pharmacists, healthcare assistants, etc)

Eligibility forms shall be available and may be secured from October 18 to October 28, 2004 at the PITC BAC Secretariat c/o Ms. Helen R. Muncal - 4th Floor, NDC Building, 116 Tordesillas St., Salcedo Village, Makati City upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00.

Interested parties shall submit on or before 3:00 PM October 29, 2004 their Letter of Intent, Proposal, Eligibility forms together with required documents in a sealed envelope addressed to:

NATIONWIDE MARKETING & DISTRIBUTION OF
PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS
c/o PITC BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE
4th Floor NDC Building
116 Tordesillas St. Salcedo Village, Makati City

Eligible parties shall be required to make a brief presentation to PITC on their capabilities and proposal.

PITC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS WITHOUT OFFERING ANY REASON, WAIVE ANY REQUIRED FORMALITIES IN THE OFFERS RECEIVED AND MAKE AN AWARD TO THE PARTY WHOSE PROPOSAL IS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO PITC.

(Sgd.) MARLENE R. LOPEZ
BAC CHAIR

(PDI--Oct. 17 & 24, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Zambales
Municipality of Sta. Cruz
OFFICE OF THE BAC CHAIRMAN
Second Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project (ARCDP II)

INVITATION TO RE-BID

October 17, 2004
World Bank/IBRD Loan No. 7152-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the ARCDPII and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contract located at Barangay Tubo-Tubo North, Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Zambales. The Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as define in the Guideline: Procurement under IBRD Loan and IDA Credits.

The Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Zambales and implementing partner of DAR for ARCDPII invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Rehabilitation of 2.098 kms. Kuala ni Bandong Road under Contract No. RIRR 04 018 01 ESC-Z.

Project Duration : 120 Calendar Days
Bidding Documents PHP 5,000.00
Minimum Bid Security PhP 39,000.00
Bid Closing Date November 18, 2004 Time 10:00 A.M.

Description of Works

Item No.	Scope of Works	Quantity	Unit
10	Clearing and Grubbing	12,588.00	sq.m.
12	Roadway & Drainage Excavation	617.00	cu.m.
14	Embankment for Roadway	2,513.00	cu.m.
20	Aggregate Sub-base Course	1,259.00	cu.m.
21	Aggregate Base Course	1,259.00	cu.m.
50 (3)	Installation of 600 mm. dia. RCPC	32.00	ln.m.
50 (4)	Installation of 900 mm. dia. RCPC	8.00	ln.m.
50 (5)	Installation of 1,200 mm. dia. RCPC	18.00	ln.m.
51	Grouted Riprap	140.00	cu.m.

Minimum Equipments Required

Bulldozer (1 unit)-owned; Road Roller Vibratory Compactor (9 ton min. 1 unit)-owned; Road Grader (1 unit)-owned; Loader (1 unit)-owned; Dump Truck (4 units)-owned; Backhoe (1 unit)-owned or lease; Water truck (1 unit)-owned; survey instruments-leased/owned.

A complete set of bidding documents maybe purchase by the interested bidders at the BAC Secretariat Office of the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Zambales starting October 19, 2004 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of PhP 5,000.00 for each set. Pre-bid conference will be held in the same address on October 25, 2004 at 10:00 A.M.

Bid shall be valid for a period of 90 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security deposit of Php 39,000.00 in form; Cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Bank Guarantee on a free convertible currency, and shall be delivered to the BAC Secretariat Office, Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Zambales, on or before the Bid closing date on November 18, 2004 at 10:00 A.M., at which time the Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.

The LGU-BAC ARCDPII of Sta. Cruz, Zambales reserves the right reject any or all bids, waive any defect for formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the lowest evaluated, responsive and complying bid.

(Sgd.) ENGR. DENNIS B. MARY
Chairman, LGU BAC-ARCDPII

(PDI - Oct. 17, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of San Andres
Municipality of Quezon
OFFICE OF THE BAC CHAIRMAN
Second Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project (ARCDP II)

INVITATION TO RE-BID
(ITB)

October 17, 2004
World Bank/IBRD Loan No. 7152-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the ARCDPII and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contract located at the Barangays Sampaloc, Santolan and Segaras, Municipality of San Andres, Province of Quezon. The Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as define in the Guideline: Procurement under IBRD Loan and IDA Credits.

The Municipality of San Andres, Province of Quezon and implementing partner of DAR for ARCDPII invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Construction of the 6.730 kilometers of Samploc – Santolan – Segaras Farm to Market Road under Contract Number RIRC 03 015 01 CAM-Q

Project Duration : 315 Calendar Days
Bidding Documents PHP 3,500.00
Minimum Bid Security PhP 380,000.00
Bid Closing Date November 18, 2004 Time 10:00 A.M.

Description of Works

Item No.	Scope of Works	Quantity	Unit
10	Clearing and Grubbing	40,380.00	Sq. Mtrs
12	Roadway & Drainage Excavation	95,243.65	Cu. Mtrs
13	Structure Excavation	304.32	
14(1)	Embankment from Roadway Exc.	13,558.80	Cu. Mtrs
20	Aggregate Sub-base Course	4,038.00	Cu. Mtrs
21	Aggregate Base Course	2,928.00	Cu. Mtrs
31	Portland Cement Concrete Pavement (3,500psi)	7,400.00	Sq. Mtrs
50	Underdrains (RCPC) including Headwalls a) 610 mm dia. - 20 pcs. b) 900 mm dia. - 04 pcs. c) 1,200 mm dia. - 8 pcs.	98.00	Ln. Mtrs
43	Reinforcing Steel	13,460.00	Kgs
44	Structural Concrete Class "A"	190.10	Cu. Mtrs
51	Grouted Riprap (slope protection)	601.00	Cu. Mtrs

Minimum Equipments Required

Bulldozer (1 unit)-owned, Road Roller Vibratory (9 ton min. 2 units)-owned; Road Grader (2 units)-owned, Concrete Transit Mixer (2 units)-owned, 1-Bagger Concrete Mixer (2 units)-owned; Concrete Vibrator (2 units)-owned, Vibratory Plate Compactor (2 units), Backhoe (1 unit)-owned or lease, Loader (1 unit)-owned. Dump Truck (4 units-owned, Water Truck (1 unit)-owned, Survey instrument-leased/owned.

A complete set of bidding documents maybe purchase by the interested bidders at the BAC Secretariat Office of the Municipality of San Andres, Province of Quezon starting October 18, 2004 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of PhP 3,500.00 for each set. Pre-bid conference will be held in the same address on November 3, 2004 at 10:00 A.M.

Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by a security deposit of Php 300,000.00 in form; Cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Bank Guarantee on a free convertible currency, and shall be delivered to the BAC Secretariat Office of the Municipality of San Andres, Province of Quezon, on or before the Bid closing date on November 18, 2004 at 10:00 A.M., at which time the Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.

The LGU-BAC ARCDPII of San Andres, Quezon reserves the right reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the lowest evaluated, responsive and complying bid

(Sgd.) MR. RENATO P. FONTANIL
Chairman, LGU BAC-ARCDPII

(PDI – October 17, 2004)

INQUIRER Mindanao
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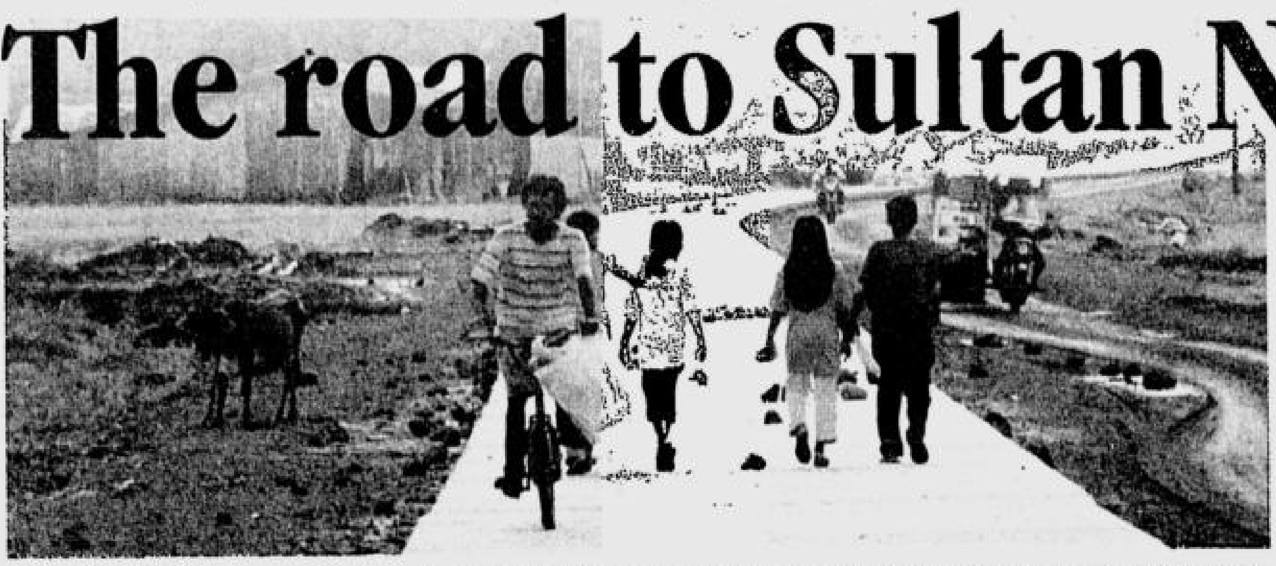
Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

The road to Sultan Naga Dimaporo



THE P500-MILLION peso regional road network that will connect Zamboanga del Sur and Lanao del Sur provinces is linking this quiet village faster to the mainstream of society. RICHEL V. UMEL/CONTRIBUTOR

By Ryan D. Rosauro
Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Lanao del Norte

LARGE trucks of army of construction workers rumble along Pikinit village, breaking a mundane early morning scene characterized by an occasional flight and chirping of farm birds amid a vast green landscape of rice fields interspersed with coconut trees.

The workers are on their way to a road clearing site, the frontier of the future for enhanced socioeconomic integration in this part of Mindanao. The construction work involves a regional road network stretching some 22 kilometers from Sultan Gumander town in Lanao del Sur to Tukuran town in Zamboanga del Sur. Another 25 to 30-kilometer road that connects to Kapatagan town in Lanao del Norte is also being rehabilitated.

Construction work had commenced for some months now with several kilometers of paved overlay already completed.

Amounting to some P500 million, the project funded by the Kuwaiti government is expected to provide a physical link between the economies of central, northern and western Mindanao regions. For travelers from northwestern Mindanao, the road adds an alternative land route to Cotabato City apart from the Narciso Ramos Highway from Marawi City.

At the center of this unfolding development is this relatively remote town of Sultan Naga Dimaporo in the southern tip of Lanao del Norte province, with practically the entire road network passing through it. Hence, as work on the road progresses, opening its isolated villages to the mainstream economy and society, socioeconomic modernization is descending on the town.

In the recent past, the way to Pikinit and outlying villages was a narrow strip of rugged dirt road that drowns in flood during the rainy season.

And although just near each other, the coastal villages could be reached best through a banca ride because the road is in very bad shape, according to provincial administrator Jesus Tobio.

"Amid poor road conditions, transport of farm produce to the town center is primarily done on horseback," a farmer related as he prepared to go home in a bicycle, a mode of transport previously uncommon in his village.

Tourism

Bella dela Cruz, municipal tourism officer, said that as the town emerges out of social and physical isolation, she hoped its tourism potentials would be discovered and developed as a strategy for local economic growth, on top of its marine riches, notably *tulingan* or yellow fin tuna.

She pointed to several kilometers of coastal stretch that features white sand beaches as potential for resort; and a host of sea cliffs ideal for diving like the one with an estimated depth of over a hundred feet. Of interest to local visitors presently is a beach in Pikalawag village.

Towards Sultan Gumander town some 15 kilometers southeast, travelers have to pass under "the tunnel." It is a 30-meter long passage carved out of a boulder by controlled blasting to give way to large trucks hauling logs and farm products. It is a construction feat during the time it was built just after the Second World War.

Already, there is increased flow of people and goods coming in and through town with some ten Tamaraw FX vans plying the route Kapatagan to Malabang in Lanao del Sur, reducing travel time by almost half. Previously, individuals embarking on this trip had to take a 45-minute jeepney ride from Kapatagan going here then board an outrigger boat for a sea ride that takes almost two hours to Malabang.

Town native Allan Sanoria, an educator, said the negative perception by outsiders about the town is unfair and needs to be corrected.

He lamented that just because it is an isolated locality in Moroland should it be viewed as some sort of an American Wild West, "when in fact it is a sanctuary of understanding between Muslim and Christian inhabitants."

Mayor Motalib Dimaporo said he expected the road to also open the potential lair of armed outlaws, hence boosting law enforcement drive.

Apart from the road, another prominent mark of modernization are two cell sites towering above town, respectively owned by Globe Telecom and Smart Communications.

This is spawning the growth in number of individuals, especially youngsters brandishing mobile phones, their platform for linking to the rest of the country and the world.

Locally known by its acronym SND, the town is composed of 37 barangays, 16 of which are coastal villages facing the wide open Illana Bay.

Created in 1953 as Karomatan town, it was renamed in 1992 in honor of the late Sultan Naga Dimaporo who once served as the town's chief executive.

MOBILE phone service became available to the town just two months ago, providing a link for the remote and isolated locality in the southern tip of Lanao del Norte province to the world beyond. RICHEL V. UMEL/CONTRIBUTOR

HANDS ON MANILA FOUNDATION, INC. and PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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9 AM - Mass
10 AM - Community Games
12 NN - Lunch/Start of Silent Auction
1230 PM - Best Student Volunteers Fashion Show directed by Ariel Lozada
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- Private movie party for 50 at myCinema
- Laptop

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SAN FERNANDO TRAGEDY

4 execs face raps for deadly fire

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Four Bureau of Fire Protection officials have been recommended for suspension following the Oct. 2 fire that killed eight workers of a supermarket here.

Senior Supt. Ruben Bearis, BFP Central Luzon director, confirmed to the INQUIRER on Friday the 90-day preventive suspension of Chief Insp. Johnny Caronan, former city fire marshal; SFO3 Danilo Rodriguez, former chief fire inspector; SFO3 Jose Antonio Samson, who replaced Rodriguez; and SFO2 Renato David, chief fire investigator.

Bearis said the BFP's task force formed to investigate the fire that gutted the Popong's Suerte Mart here made the recommendation pending the possible filing of administrative cases against the four.

According to him, the four BFP officials issued supermarket owners Marichu and Tony Choi a fire inspection certificate for their Feb. 6, 2004 business permit despite several violations of fire safety standards.

Bearis said the supermarket was last inspected in November 2003.

Caronan and Rodriguez had been moved to other assignments and could not be reached for comment. David, who as chief fire inspector, signed a certification issued for the Chois' renovation plan on April 4, 1997.

Numerous specifications in the plan were violated, among these the construction of the fourth floor where the eight workers were trapped and burned to death, documents obtained by the INQUIRER showed.

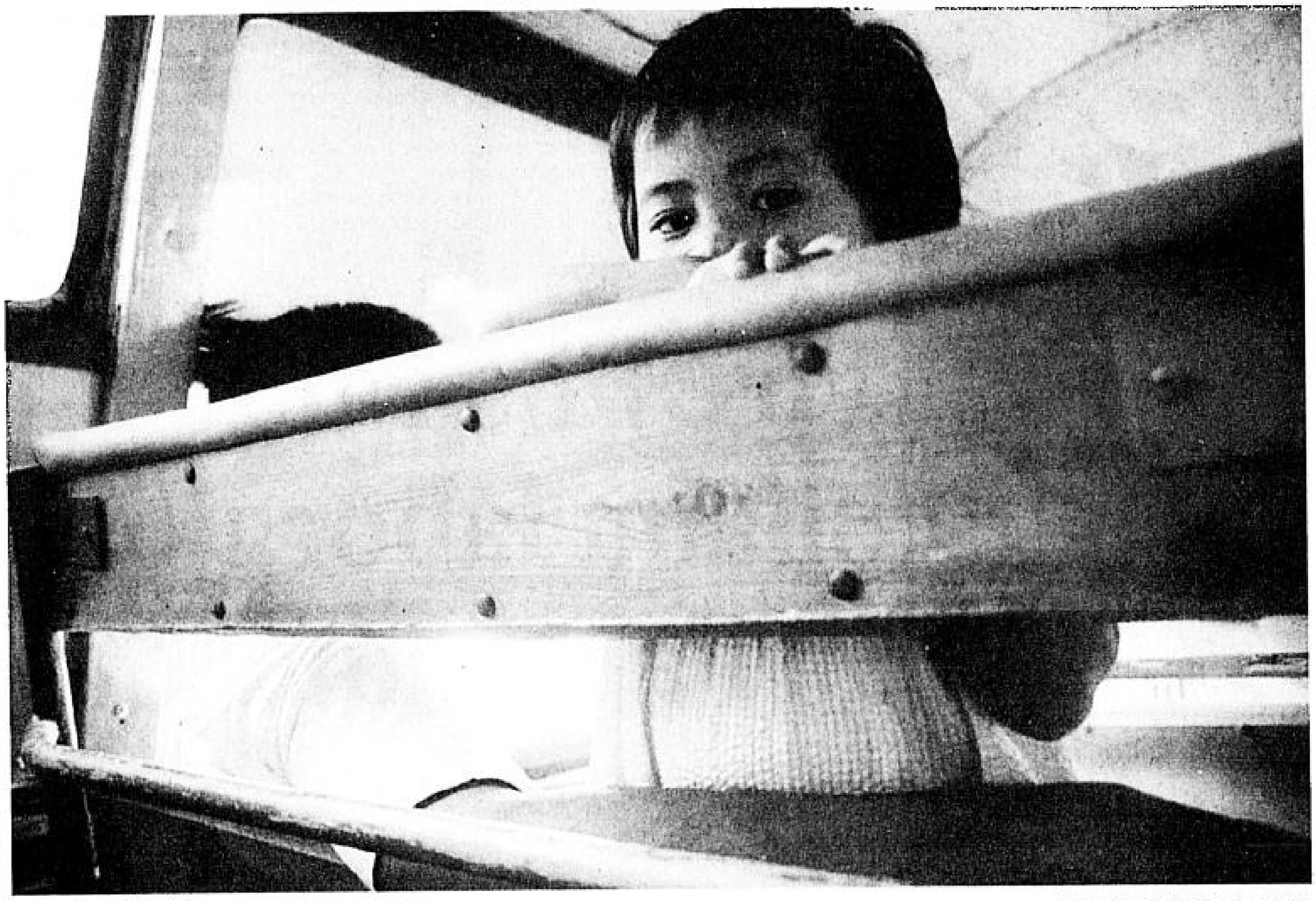
The lone room on this floor did not also have a fire exit and an escape ladder. The windows, sealed by metal grills, were padlocked. In the plan, the owners specified "sliding glass window with aluminum frame."

David could not be reached for comment. Samson said he was surprised by the recommendation, saying he took over Rodriguez's post only in July.

Both the BFP and the city government's business office claimed to have not retained a copy of the 2004 fire inspection certificate. The BFP claimed it lost its documents when the office was rebuilt last year.

An official at the city government's Business One-Stop-Shop (Boss) office confirmed that the certificate was among the documents that the Chois submitted. Former Mayor Reynaldo Aquino approved the couple's business permit.

The accountability of higher BFP officials would be known when the city government announces the findings of its own investigating panel next week, Mayor Oscar Rodriguez said. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*



ARNOLD ALMACEN/PDI VISAYAS BUREAU

BORING RIDE
A girl appears to be bored in a bus bound for Caticlan, Aklan from Iloilo. The trip takes six hours.

'World foodless day' celebrated

BAGUIO CITY—Instead of celebrating the World Food Day on Saturday, members of a women's group here commemorated what they called the "World Foodless Day."

They called it as such because food, they said, is becoming scarce as large-scale industries, like mining and logging operations, deprive people in the villages of their sources of food, according to Vernie Yocogan Diano, chair of the Innabuyog-Gabriela here.

"Although food coupons are needed to satisfy the people's hunger, President Macapagal-Arroyo should dig deeply into the root cause of the problem by reviewing the national policies that affect the livelihood of the people," Diano said.

She said despite the Cordillera's rich resources, villagers in the region hardly benefit from their agricultural lands, minerals, rivers and forests because of mining operations, illegal logging and dam construction.

The Cordillera remains a major target of local and multinational mining companies for the extraction of its rich mineral resources, mainly gold and copper, a statement of the Cordillera Peoples Alliance said.

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau in the Cordillera is processing 64 applications for production sharing agreement (Apsa) covering 78,198 hectares; an application for financial and/or technical assistance agreement (FTAA) covering 77,549 hectares; exploration permit applications covering 277,630.14 hectares; and six industrial permit applications for 32.51 hectares.

Diano said the region's forests are also being depleted. *Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Payumo on leaving Subic: 'Another door opens . . .'

By Allan Macatuno
PDI Central Luzon Desk

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE—Outgoing Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority Chair Felicito Payumo on Friday said he had no regrets in leaving the government agency he had served for six years.

"I have learned about letting go . . . When one door closes, another one opens. I am happy about leaving because I know that I have found a family here in Subic," Payumo said during the thanksgiving party prepared for him by SBMA officials and employees on Friday, his last day in office.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has appointed Francisco Licuanan III, former president of Ayala Land Inc., as the new SBMA chair. The President also appointed Alfredo Antonio, former president of the Development Bank of the Philippines, as SBMA administrator.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye recently said Antonio will serve as acting SBMA chair until Licuanan assumes office on Nov. 1.

Antonio, who visited SBMA and its surrounding communities on Oct. 13, will assume office on Monday.

PAYUMO

Zambales Rep. Maria Milagros Magsaysay and Olongapo City Vice Mayor Rolen Paulino commended Payumo for transforming this former American naval base into a "bustling investment hub" and for opening job opportunities to the communities surrounding Subic.

"If there's one thing that I can be proud of, it is that we have formed a community here and not just a government structure," Payumo said.

He added: "And to you, my family, I will be coming back very often but this time to enjoy Subic in a more leisurely manner, not that I have not enjoyed it but this time I will savor every moment of it."

Payumo came close to crying when his children, who are based abroad, made some surprise calls during the program and expressed their appreciation for the hard work and leadership of their father.

Govs, mayors back Gloria's tax measures

By Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—A group of elected local chief executives and officials expressed their support to the administration's economic measures and urged the two chambers of Congress to expedite the passage of the eight revenue measures endorsed by the President.

Officials of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (Ulap) met on Thursday with President Macapagal-Arroyo at the Malacañang in the South and discussed with her their collective stand on the matter.

Ulap is an umbrella organization of the leagues of governors, vice governors, provincial boards, municipal and city mayors and barangay officials.

Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone, Ulap's spokesperson, yesterday told reporters that they would lobby before the two chambers of Congress to immediately hasten the approval of the economic measures endorsed by President Arroyo.

"Ulap believes unless there are measures adopted by the two houses in Congress, we will face very dire consequences of the delivery of the basic services to the people," Evardone yesterday said.

Dire consequences

Evardone said their group is also spearheading a signature campaign starting from the provincial down to the municipal and barangay levels urging Congress to pass the economic measures proposed by the government.

He said Ulap commended the President for her support to the Ulap's proposal not to cut the Internal Revenue Allotment of local government units.

Evardone said the President has already submitted a P151-billion budget to Congress that included an increase in the LGUs' IRA share.

Evardone clarified that they did not support the President's tax measures in order to protect their IRA share. He stressed that the passage of the economic measures would not only benefit the LGU but the national government as well.

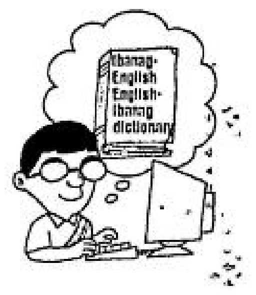
Surigao del Norte Gov. Robert Lyndon Barbers, national vice president of Ulap, also said there was no need for them to protect their IRA since the share due to each LGU is provided in the Local Government Code.

Ulap also said that its officials and members are also exploring measures how to help the government.

Evardone said they would pass resolutions making a commitment to use 20 percent of their IRA to support the 10-point agenda of the President.

ROUNDUP

Ibanag dictionary



TUGUEGARAO CITY—The city government has tapped the Ibanag Council for Culture and the Arts in putting together an Ibanag dictionary for tourists, scholars and foreign investors. Mayor Randolph Ting said he has enlisted the help of Ibanag experts to finish the project funded by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts. Ibanag is said to be the richest dialect in Cagayan Valley. The project is expected to cost P500,000.
Estanislao Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Night market pushed

BAGUIO CITY—Mayor Braulio Yaranon wants to put up night markets here to help decongest the sidewalks of vendors and improve pedestrian traffic at daytime. Yaranon said a proposed night market could accommodate vendors displaced by Administrative Order No. 163, the law against illegal vendors and structures. Members of the city council supported Yaranon's proposal and said market hours should be held between 8 p.m. and midnight.
Donna Demetillo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Malaria outbreak

TUGUEGARAO CITY—The provincial health office has declared a malaria outbreak in the Cagayan towns of Sto. Niño, Baggao and Iguig. Dr. Ramilo Taguba, provincial health officer, said at least two persons were reported to have died of malaria in Sto. Niño, while several residents in the other towns were afflicted with the disease. He added that the incidence of dengue fever in the province had gone down by 60 percent compared to last year's figures.
Estanislao Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

18 Vietnamese held

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—At least 18 Vietnamese fishermen on board two fishing vessels were caught, some 6 nautical miles west of Palawan on Wednesday by the Philippine Coast Guard. The fishermen were brought to Puerto Princesa for inquest. A case of poaching will be filed against them, a crime that can imprison violators for 2 to 4 years and impose a fine of $100,000 per vessel.
Jofelle Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Austerity measures

ECO-PARK
OPENING
SOON
POSTPONED

TAYABAS, Quezon—The Tayabas local government has postponed the public opening of the eco-park located in Barangay Pandakaki to abide by the government's austerity program. The P1.6-million five-hectare park, according to Tayabas Mayor Severina Nadres, will have a visitor's building, material redemption facility, composting area, fishpond and organic vegetable farming site. She said the composted materials would serve as natural fertilizer to the organic farm. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

3 held for illegal drugs

SINILOAN, Laguna—Police arrested three drug suspects Oct. 7 for alleged violation of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, or the Anti-Illegal Drugs Law. Siniloan police chief Supt. Remilo Bamba said police caught Jose Watson, 44, laborer; Andres Octia, 46, farmer; and Ronald Calabita, 41, jobless, all residents of Barangay Pedro Burgos, Siniloan, in the act of using shabu. Police confiscated shabu paraphernalia.
Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

3 killed in collision

COTABATO CITY—At least three people were killed while several others injured when two passenger jeepneys collided in Tantangan, South Cotabato on Tuesday afternoon, authorities said Wednesday. Killed on the spot was the driver of one of the jeepneys, identified as Ruben Villegas of Koronadal City, and passengers Gino Cabrera of Catanduanes and Nasser Salama of Ampatuan, Maguindanao. Police said the three were pinned to death. Jessie Aysola, the driver of the other jeepney, said he was forced to take on the lane used by Villegas to avoid being hit by an overtaking cargo truck. *Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Fire razes 49 houses

BUTUAN CITY—A fire triggered by a lighted candle razed about 49 houses and the municipal hall of Dapa town on Siargao Island Saturday afternoon. Senior Insp. Mejamin Macaraig, Surigao del Norte fire chief, said initial investigation showed that the fire started in the house of a certain Joseph Camingue in Barangay Poblacion at around 12:30 p.m. Macaraig said a lighted candle left by Camingue's children caused the flame, engulfing Camingue's wooden house and quickly spreading to the neighborhood. The fire also razed the municipal hall, which also houses the municipal circuit court.
Franklin Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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Heads of three police chiefs in Rizal roll in ongoing revamp

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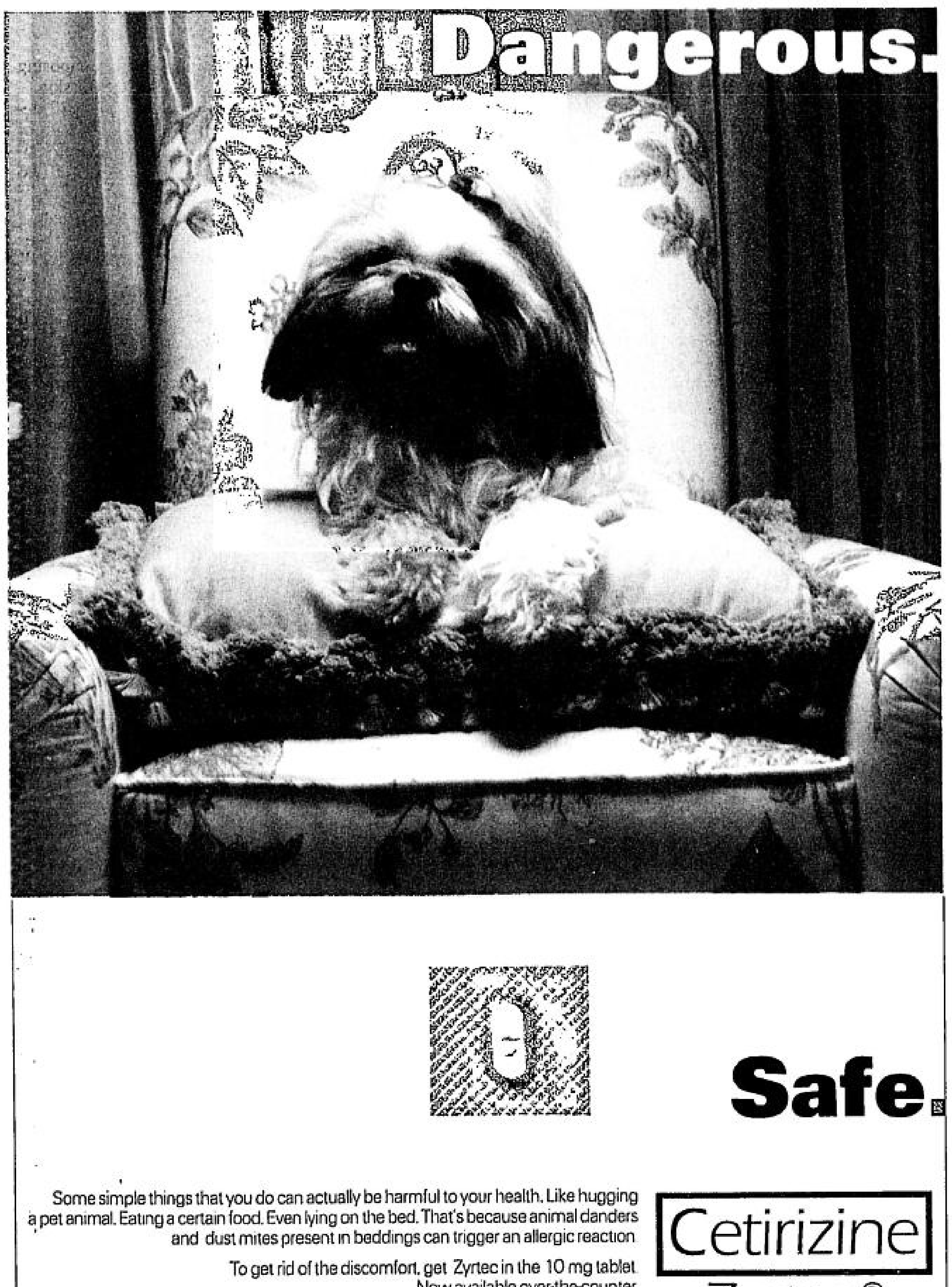

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By Luige A. del Puerto

THE POLICE leadership in Rizal has completed its first round of revamp this month, sacking three station chiefs for alleged incompetence.

"I can no longer tolerate their incompetence," declared Sr. Supt. Leocadio Santiago, provincial police chief.

Santiago relieved Supt. Jose Gili of the Binangonan Police, Senior Insp. Diosdado Martinez of the Teresa Police, and Chief Insp. Roque Edgardo Mendoza Paredes of the San Mateo Police.

One thread binds the three officials—their apparent inability to solve crimes, particularly in arresting the spate of robberies targeting Asian utility vehicles and jeepneys, said Santiago.

Supt. Raymund Oliquiano replaced Gili, Chief Insp. Patricia Pantaloen replaced Martinez, and Supt. Mario Lico replaced Paredes.

The changes took place during the last four weeks.

The chief of police in Taytay has also been relieved—but not for incompetence. Supt. Rodino Elfa is currently in school.

Supt. Jaime Piloneo has assumed his post.

Santiago wants another police chief sacked: Chief Insp. Miguel Paje of the Angono police.

"The mayor there has complained to me about the crime in his town. So I told him, 'Why not replace the police chief?'" Santiago said over the phone.

"But he does not want to replace the police chief. That puts my office in a dilemma," the police official added.

Local executives hold considerable clout over the choice of the police chief. In many instances, good relations with town or city officials prove crucial in getting logistical support, such as cars and gasoline allowances for the police.

The mayor's support is badly needed to augment the budget of the police.

Santiago said he was ultimately responsible for the failure of his police officers, since he was their commander.

"The problem with local executives not wanting to replace incompetent police chiefs is that I cannot bring this argument to the PNP leadership. The (PNP) hierarchy does not accept this kind of argument," Santiago said. "Since it is my area, it is my responsibility and there is no excuse for it."

The Rizal police chief said he was still hoping to convince Angono Mayor Gerry Calderon to let go of Paje.

Paje said over the phone that it was all up to Santiago, his direct supervisor, whether he stayed or went.

He admitted that the mayor wanted him to stay as town police director. But the decision is out of his hands.

"I will simply follow whatever order is given. I just do my job," he said.

A CASE OF ARSON?

Fire hits raided shabu laboratory in Parañaque City

By Nancy C. Carvajal

CHEMICALS used in the manufacture of shabu were reportedly burned when fire of still unknown origin hit an alleged illegal drugs laboratory inside the Multinational Village in Parañaque City yesterday morning.

Fire investigator SFO2 Teodorico Gatchalian, officer on case, said they were still investigating the cause of the fire that hit the stockroom of the alleged drug laboratory on Nazareth Street at about 5:30 a.m.

However, Parañaque City Mayor Florencio Bernabe said he received information that the blaze was caused by a fire bomb.

"*Sabi sa akin molotov bomb daw iyon galing sa labas ng bahay* (I was told it was a molotov bomb that was thrown from outside the house)," Bernabe told the INQUIRER.

He refused to say where he got the information.

When asked about the information that reached the mayor, Gatchalian said the incident "was still under investigation."

The blaze destroyed the stockroom that stood separately at the right side of the three-story house. The 1,800 square meter house was spared.

An undetermined amount of solvents used in making the illegal drug was reportedly stored inside the warehouse when it went up in flames.

Last Tuesday, agents of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency raied the house and found 13 kilos of ephedrine, 46 boxes of thionyl chloride and 634 boxes of various solvents. All are raw materials for manufacturing shabu.

At the time of the blaze, only a certain Airforce corporal detailed at PDEA, Emil Amihan, and Tam Benti, reportedly a PDEA informant, were at the house keeping watch.

Gatchalian said that it was the residents of the village who alerted them of the fire.

He said several residents saw people climbing out of the compound when the fire erupted.

It was the third drug laboratory raided inside the subdivision. It was the biggest.

A Chinese national, Li Zhong Hong alias James Nian, was arrested by police during the raid.

WPD prepares for All Souls Day

By Leila B. Salaverria

WITH TWO weeks to go before people troop to the cemeteries for All Souls' Day, the Western Police District has started preparations to ensure that the forthcoming holidays will be orderly and peaceful.

The assignments of policemen to specific areas during the holidays are being mapped out, as well as the removal of road obstructions to ensure that traffic on the said days would be flowing as smoothly as possible, said Western Police District director Chief Supt. Pedro Bulaong.

He also said the police already began coordinating with barangay officials to check for busted street lamps in roads leading to cemeteries in Manila.

Defective street lights will be replaced so that criminals will not be able to take advantage of the dark to victimize motorists and cemetery-goers.

By Oct. 30, police assistance centers and public address systems will already be set up around cemeteries to help those who are lost and confused, the WPD chief said.

And as early as two weeks before Nov. 1, Bulaong said the police would begin rounding up derelicts living inside Manila's four cemeteries to maintain peace and order in the said areas.

Yesterday, over 70 men inside the North Cemetery were rounded up for questioning by Sta. Cruz police station members headed by Supt. Romulo Sapitula.

According to Sapitula, who was interviewed over dzMM, at least one of the men was confirmed wanted for homicide. The suspect had a warrant for his arrest.

The police would also check if suspected jeepney robbers were also among those rounded up in yesterday's drive.

DPS homecoming

ALL DILIMAN Preparatory School graduates from 1969-2004 are invited to the launching of the DPS Alumni Association on Nov. 27 at the school gym.

It will coincide with the commemoration the school's 35th anniversary.

For inquiries, call Rina Yap (951-9403) or Melina Sandoval (0918-9228469) or email us at dps_alumni@yahoo.com.

Las Piñas eyes water stations

TAKING notice of the increasing number of water refilling stations in Las Piñas City, Mayor Imelda Aguilar ordered close monitoring and evaluation of such shops to make sure the water they are selling are safe.

At the same time, Aguilar warned the owners and operators of water refilling stations that they faced stiff sanctions and penalties should they be found selling bottled water unsafe for drinking.

Aguilar directed the city health and business permit and licensing offices to conduct a roundup inspection, classification and rating of water refilling stations in the city.

Only safe and pure water

She said the move was aimed at ensuring that city residents get safe and purified drinking water from the filling stations.

Aguilar pointed out that classification of water retailers will force its owners and operators to comply with the prescribed standards.

"In this time of crisis, *mahirap magkasakit*. Let us make sure that the water we buy and drink are safe," she said.

Section 10 of the PD 856 or Water Supply and Sanitation Code mandates local health authorities to inspect and evaluate all water refilling stations to make sure the water that they sell meet safety standards.

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METRO

Editor Ester G. Dipasupil ■ Assistant Editor Cenon B. Bibe

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EZ2
16 28

SUERTRES
5 3 2

SIX DIGIT
5 6 3 6 6 2
(In exact order)

Police say crime rate fell in Sept.

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE NATIONAL Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) has reported a drop in crime volume for the month of September compared with the same period last year.

The most notable of the decreases in crime volume concerned non-index crimes, or those that have no direct victim, with 615 incidents reported last month compared with 936 reported during the same time last year.

There were also drops in the incidence of homicide, theft, robbery, physical injuries and rape, although the number of reported murder cases slightly increased.

Homicide cases fell to 26 from 44 reported in September last year.

Theft cases decreased from 414 last year to 365 this year. Robbery cases also dropped down to 257 from 277.

Physical injury cases also experienced a slight downturn, with 185 reported incidents this year compared with 199 reported cases last year.

Rape cases had a decrease, from 28 reported incidents last year to 26 cases this year.

The number of murder cases, however, slightly increased. This year, it went up to 48 from 45 reported incidents last year.

Overall, the total crime volume last September was 1,522. The total volume for the same period last year stood at 1,943.

Pasig has healthiest hospital

IT CAÑNOT give what it does not have.

So, the Pasig City General Hospital (PCGH) had to be a place of health to be able to provide health. And its efforts paid off.

Recently, the Department of Health named the PCGH as the Most Outstanding Healthy Hospital in Metro Manila during rites at the 2nd Philippine Health Promotion Program held at the Heritage Hotel.

The city-owned and operated hospital founded by Mayor Vicente P. Eusebio has a 100-bed capacity and boasts of modern medical equipment, intensive care facility, operating rooms and specialized care units.

PCGH has been serving the health needs of the city for close to a decade.

According to Eusebio, providing the best health care possible to Pasigueños is a top priority of his administration.

Apart from the hospital, the city government extends welfare in the baranggay level through weekly free health checkups called Lingap sa Kalusugan.

Currently under construction is PCGH's six-story, 300-bed capacity extension building.

Gas-saving invention comes to the rescue of 3 cities

FACED with a looming budget crunch, the mayors of three leading cities are turning to a Filipino gas-saving invention to cut down on their gasoline expenditures.

Isko Catibayan, vice president and spokesperson of Inventionhaus International, identified these as Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward Hagedorn.

For starters, Belmonte has decided to have the gas-saving device fitted to Quezon City's 800 vehicles in response to the government's austerity call, Catibayan said.

Catibayan said Belmonte had confirmed to him that the Khaos Super Turbo Charger (KSTC) would be installed in all the red-plate vehicles of City Hall.

"*Bumilib si* Mayor SB. *Sabi niya kung makakabitan ang lahat* ng government vehicles *ng Kyusi ay tiyak na malaking tulong ito para sa pagtitipid* ng gasoline (The mayor was impressed. He said that if all government vehicles in the city would have it, it would result in big savings)," Catibayan said.

Initially, the QC government scheduled 20 vehicles for the first batch even as the mayor called on the motorpool section to recall all other cars for the installation of the gas-saving device.

During the testing of the gadget, the QC-General Services Office (GSO) was surprised by the performance of the KSTC of Pablo Planas, a former driver and auto mechanic.

The QC-GSO was among the agencies, aside from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Department of Energy (DoE), to give a thumbs-up sign on the Filipino invention.

A certificate signed by Engr. Rolando Bola, Special Operations Officer IV of the QC Motorpool Section shows that the testing result on a Suzuki Bravo Multicab was convincing.

Planas, who personally supervised his men in fitting the gadget to the QC-owned vehicle, filled in one and a half liters of gasoline to the Suzuki Bravo Multicab and let it run for about six kilometers.

The QC personnel supervised when it turned out that only 30% of fuel was consumed for the short drive.

Planas said that the longer the trip would be, the more gas you save with KSTC.

Also impressed, Bola decided to have the gadget fitted in his own car.

Inventionhaus, located at the second floor of President Tower on Timog Avenue, Quezon City, manufactures the device.

Frogmen risk all to save lives

By Leila B. Salaverria

SPECIAL Operations Group Master Chief Mauro Angeles stands beside a Coast Guard boat, ready to respond to any incident that will require divers going into the deep.

ERIK ARAZAS

THESE men brave the dangers lurking in the deep, and often stare death in the eye.

They work in conditions of extreme heat and freezing cold, unmindful of stinging salt water, and even the stink of sewers.

They will plunge into the waters without hesitation to save lives.

They are the Philippine Coast Guard's frontliners—the everyday heroes of the Special Operations Group (SOG) who lead search and rescue and retrieval missions involving tragic water accidents in the country.

Master Chief Mauro Angeles, 53, leads this elite group of specialists, also called frogmen, that is the PCG's equivalent of the Navy's Special Warfare Group.

Behind the scenes

Since 1992, Angeles has been quietly working behind the scenes of every sea tragedy in the country, searching for and rescuing survivors, retrieving bodies, luggage and other items that could provide clues for subsequent investigations, or serve as mementos to relatives and survivors.

It is not an easy task, and definitely not for the weak.

But even if he has retrieved countless bodies from sunken or burning ships, downed airplanes or crammed sewers, Angeles confessed that he was still touched by each new experience.

"Even if the person you save is not your relative, you are always affected," he told the INQUIRER. "That is why you need to be strong, not only physically, but you should be able to get a hold of your emotions as well."

Angeles recalled that he shed tears when he retrieved an 8-year-old boy from the wreck of the Laoag International Airlines plane that crashed into Manila Bay in November 2002, killing 19 persons.

A kick of hope

He performed CPR (cardiopulmunary resuscitation) on the boy in the hope of reviving him, and his legs would kick every time his chest was pumped and air was breathed into him, giving hope to the rescuer.

"I thought I would be able to revive the boy," he said after unsuccessful efforts to pump air into the frail body. When he realized the boy was gone, the tears fell. But he had to wipe them away soon, because there was a job that had to be done.

Of all the missions Angeles worked on, he said the most memorable was that of SuperFerry 14 early this year.

One hundred eleven persons are still unaccounted for after a terrorist bomb caused the ship to burn on Feb. 27.

Man's mortality

During retrieval operations, with a sea of burned and decomposing bodies before him, Angeles said he was reminded of man's mortality.

"Every time I remember that rescue mission, I realize that no matter how rich or how brilliant you are, in the end, you are nothing if a tragedy like that strikes you," he said.

But the SuperFerry 14 incident was also memorable in other ways. The physical hardships that the SOG teams had to endure during the retrieval of the bodies were unparalleled, he said.

After the 10,000-ton ship caught fire while on its way to Bacolod, it was towed to Mariveles, Bataan, where it rested on its side.

Because of the ship's position, the SOG men who entered the ship had to work in surroundings skewed at a 90-degree angle.

The deck where most of the bodies were located was six stories below them, and the SOG team had to rappel down the entire length with nothing underneath to catch them but twisted slabs of metal and charred furniture.

Recovered bodies

When a body was retrieved, the divers had to take extra care to strap the remains in stretchers or to place these in body bags as they were hoisted to the surface.

"We took care of the bodies and made sure these were not manhandled because they deserved nothing less," Angeles said.

And because the fire inside the ship took a long time to die, the SOG teams who entered the vessel had to contend with fumes, heat and ashes that filtered through their gas masks.

It was difficult and dangerous work. In fact, members of the Special Board of Marine Inquiry who were investigating the fire and who had visited the ship took note of the teams having been exposed to precarious working conditions.

Angeles said the work was hard, but they were armed with a little extra weapon: prayer.

"When we finished our work and all of us were safe, I thought, *ang lakas ko kay* Lord (the Lord watches over me)!" he said.

Given the kind of situations the SOG operatives work in, it is but natural that they possess skill, strength, extraordinary stamina and the right attitude.

Being accepted into the SOG is not easy, and the group is not called elite for no reason.

Surprisingly, Angeles said, knowing how to swim is not a major requirement. It can be learned.

Determination, discipline and the right attitude are what's important, he added.

Only males not older than 26 years old and not shorter than 5'4" are accepted for training. They must also be college graduates and should be physically fit.

But that is just the beginning. The demanding training program calls for jogging at high noon, swimming in cold waters, and learning to function and adapt to all kinds of weather and environment. They are also trained in explosives and ordnance handling, handy equipment in the light of terrorist threats.

They must be alert and be able to respond any time, 24 hours a day.

"We can't tell the ship captains or airplanes not to sink or crash at odd hours, which is why we have to be always prepared," Angeles said.

And sea-related accidents are not uncommon in an archipelago with more than 7,000 islands, all under the PCG's care.

Three days of 'hell'

Among the tests trainees have to go through is three "hell days" during which they must not drop off to sleep while doing numerous physical challenges, and a three-mile swim that they must finish in three hours or less.

Physical fitness is paramount in SOG work, but knowledge in safety measures is important as well. All divers must faithfully follow the buddy-buddy system, for one, and observe the 12-hour rest between dives.

The hazards of diving, on the other hand, include hearing loss and diving sickness, which cause paralysis or erectile dysfunction. Divers must also learn to contend with the smell of decomposing bodies, which clings to the skin.

Asked if divers could still develop an appetite after hours of seeing and handling rotting bodies, Angeles said they had no choice but to eat to regain their strength.

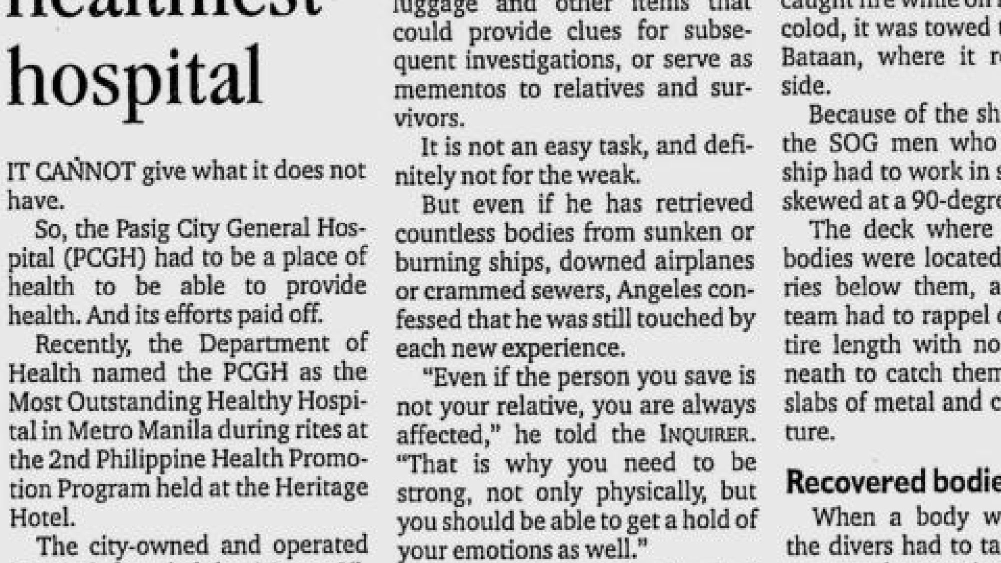
Divers usually eat without utensils when at a dive site, but he said this is okay since they wear gloves while working.

SOG trainees also have a "hell blast," where they are allowed to get drunk. The reason for this, said Angeles, is to get to know a trainee's real character, which surfaces when he is under the influence of liquor.

The SOG chief said those who love fights or become very troublesome when drunk were usually placed under observation to see if their attitude would improve or not worsen while working.

There are currently only 174 SOG operatives among the 3,500-strong PCG force, but they are frontliners, said PCG spokesperson Lt. Armand Balilo.

"When people think of the Coast Guard, they think of the divers," Balilo said. "It's a good thing they are everyday heroes."



SMALL HEAVEN
Munting Paraiso, a special ward at the UP-PGH for children with cancer, receives donations from friends led by Luli Arroyo, the President's daughter, and beauty guru Ricky Reyes, accompanied by Australian Miss Earth pageant candidate Sheneville Dixon.

Water board acts to save ground water

By Tina G. Santos

THE NATIONAL Water Resources Board (NWRB) would be making it harder for people to draw more of Metro Manila's ground water.

Moves by the board to restrict the extraction of ground water came after it noted a deterioration of water in at least 13 areas in the metropolis.

In a study, the NWRB identified the critical areas in Metro Manila with deteriorating water quality due to excessive ground-water extraction through deep wells.

These areas are Merville and Sun Valley Subdivisions in Parañaque; Catmon and Tangos in Malabon; Manresa, Apolonio Samson, Paltok, Mariblo and Baesa in Quezon City; Barangay 171 in Bagumbong and Barangay 173 in Soldier's Hills, both in Caloocan City; and Talon and Almanza Uno in Muntinlupa.

Tough measures on ground-water extraction would be carried out in these critical areas, according to NWRB executive director Ramon Alikpala, saying that the big number of wells extracting water from the grounds have seriously affected the allowable extraction rate or safe water yield.

Salty and contaminated

He explained that they noted increased salinity and contamination from near surface formations in the identified critical areas.

Alikpala added that over-extraction would also result in irreversible damage to underground reservoirs.

Aside from affecting water quality, Alikpala also said that over extraction also causes land subsidence, particularly in coastal areas like Parañaque.

With this critical situation, Alikpala said the NWRB would no longer grant new extraction permits in areas where water levels are below zero elevation or where there is hardly any water yield.

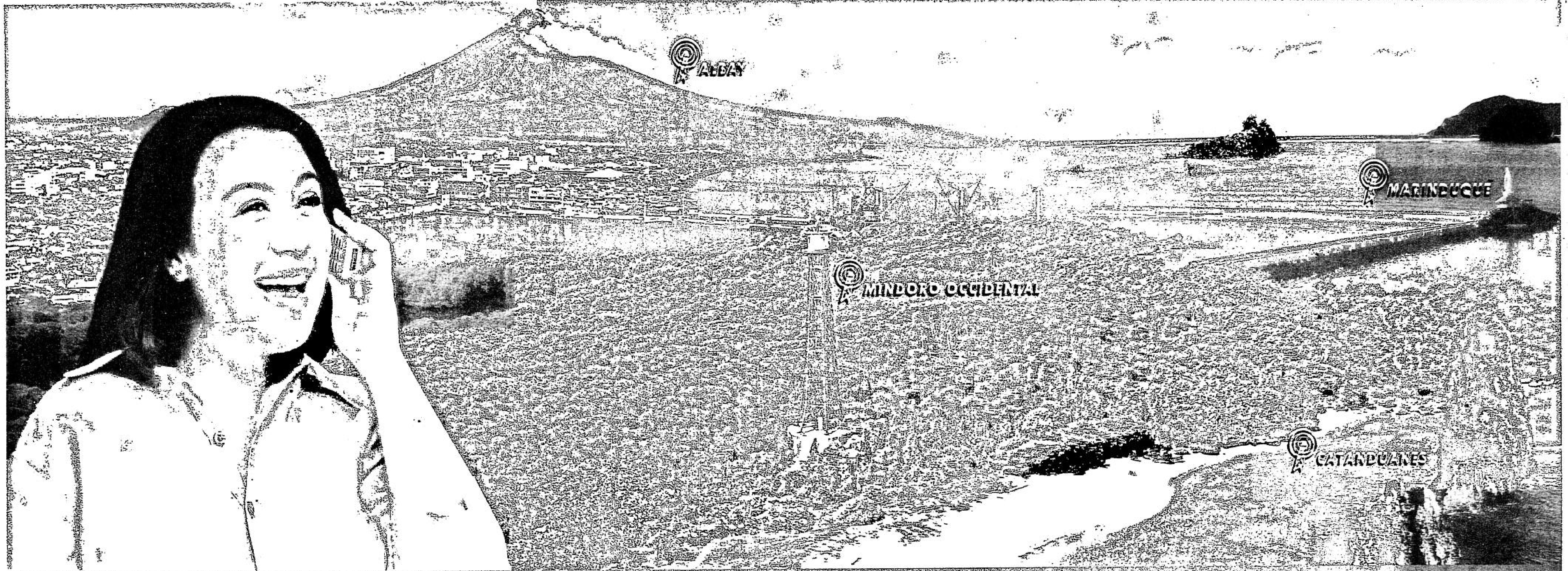
Furthermore, water permits for the critical areas that are connected to Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) are automatically revoked.

For vital sectors like hospitals and medial laboratories, their extraction rate would be reduced and they would be charged with higher water extraction fees.

The validity of the water permits to those without MWSS connection would be revoked once MWSS water service becomes available.

For noncritical areas in Metro Manila that are not connected with the MWSS, the NWRB would process permits only for backup purposes.

For those not connected, NWRB would allow processing of permits.



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BASKETBALL: NBA Pre Season Games - Celtics vs Nets; 7:30 a.m. (r- 7:30 p.m.); Solar Sports - Boston and New Jersey renew their rivalry in the off-season.

NBA Pre Season Games - Rockets vs Kings; 12 noon (r-10 p.m.); Solar Sports - Houston and Sacramento tangle in Beijing.

BASEBALL: MLB National League Championship Series - 7:30 a.m. (r- 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.); ESPN - The race for the World Series continues in the NL.

SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Mangulat

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday SPORTS

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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Deport Taulava, 5 others—DOJ

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice has concluded that six of the eight so-called Fil-shams, including Talk 'N Text's Asi Taulava, faked their citizenship papers to be able to play in the Philippine Basketball Association and should be deported.

A top-ranking DOJ official told the INQUIRER yesterday that only Andy Seigle of Barangay Ginebra and San Miguel Beer's Dorian Peña were able to prove their Filipino citizenship.

The source said that the DOJ would issue tomorrow its 50-page ruling recommending the deportation of Taulava, Red Bull's Davonn Harp, Jon Ordonio and Mick Pennisi, Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola, and Alex Crisano of Barangay Ginebra.

DOJ Secretary Raul Gonzalez later confirmed the news in a TV interview.

"Definitely, their documents were not authentic. In fact, they were manufactured or falsified. These players will be deported or they might choose to leave voluntarily," the official said.

"Only the validity of Seigle and Peña's Filipino citizenship were upheld," he added.

The official said the DOJ concluded that Seigle is a Filipino after he was able to prove that his mother was a Filipino citizen. He said that Seigle's only fault was that he was not able to elect Filipino citizenship within three years after he reached his age of maturity.

"But we want to be liberal on this. We think the (oversight) was made in good

DEPORT/ A26

TAULAVA

HATFIELD

Decision may affect SMB-Coke tiff today

By June Navarro

SAN MIGUEL Beer and Coca-Cola clash today on the eve of a decision from the Department of Justice recommending that six of the eight Fil-foreign players in the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup be deported for faking their citizenship papers.

The SMB-Coke game at 4 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum will somehow be affected since the DOJ ruling clears Beerman Dorian Peña but penalizes Coca-Cola's Rudy Hatfield. *(See related story above)*

Also getting the ax with Hatfield are Asi Taulava of Talk 'N Text, Red Bull's Davonn Harp, Mick Pennisi and Jon Ordonio and Alex Crisano of Barangay Ginebra.

Peña and Andy Seigle of Ginebra won't be deported, according to the DOJ, because they were able to prove their Filipino citizenship.

Based on an earlier board decision, the six players are automatically suspended as soon as the PBA receives the official DOJ ruling this coming week.

With the favorable ruling, Peña is expected to play inspired ball in partnership with Danny Ildefonso and Nic Belasco at the slot.

The Tigers will try to stop them through Rafi Reavis and Gilbert Lao although the two 6-foot-7 centers will get help from Hatfield and Poch Juinio.

Also equally interesting is the matchup between Johnny Abarrientos and Olsen Racela at the point.

Gary David and Hatfield starred during the Tigers' 71-68 conquest of the Aces in Butuan City while the Beermen got another fabulous act from Bryan Gahol in scooting past the Barangay Ginebra Kings, 83-72, early this week.

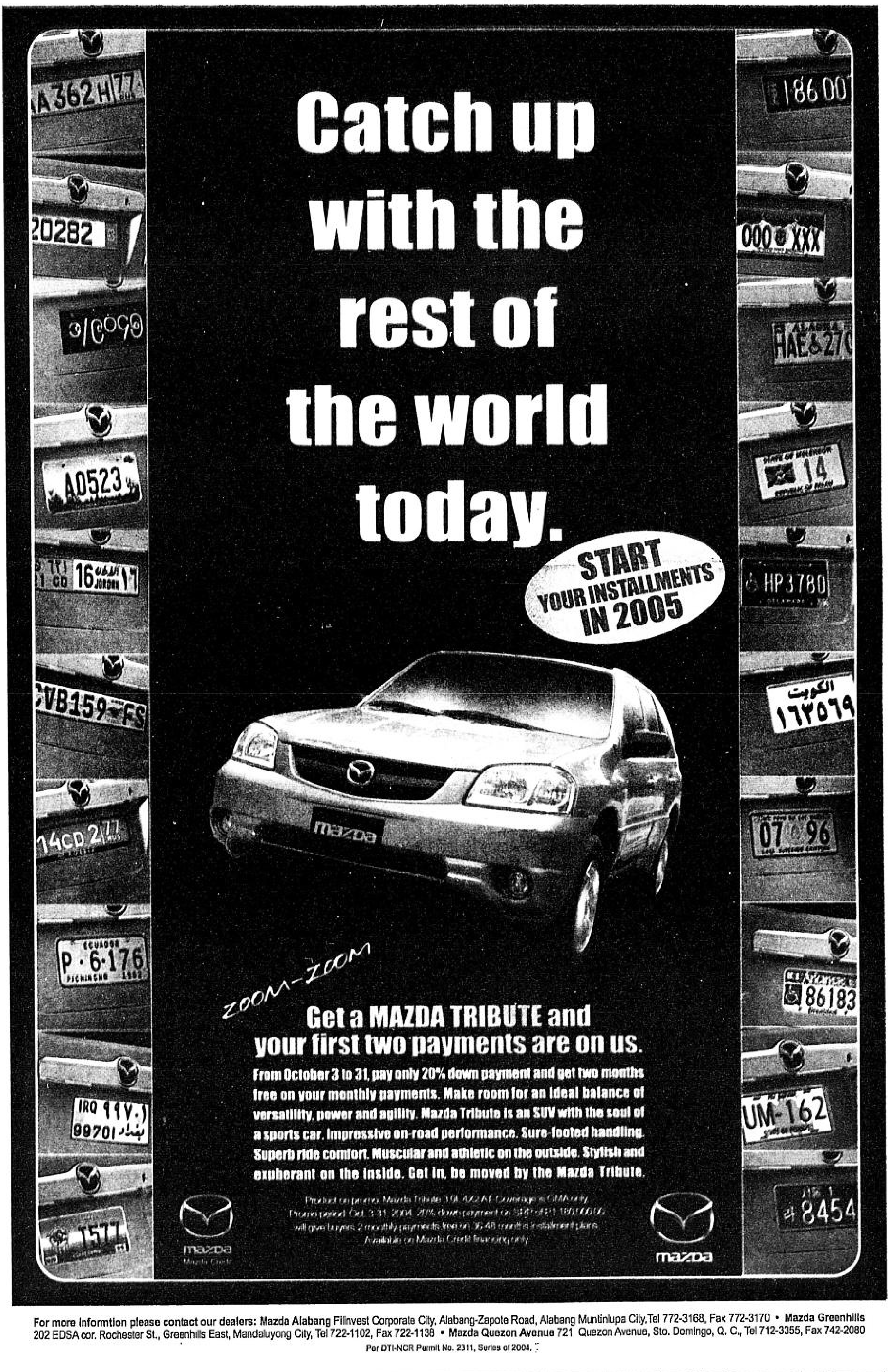
The Aces are raring to bounce back after absorbing back-to-back heart-breakers. The Express are also determined to return to the victory trail after getting sideswiped by TNT last Wednesday.

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4 p.m.-San Miguel Beer vs Coca-Cola
6:30 p.m.—Alaska vs FedEx

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Arcilla clinches 7th title for year /A29

■ Team RP routs Malta /A26



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PWEDE NANG MAG-BABOY ARAW-ARAW!

Pampanga thwarts Ilocos Sur in URBL

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga—Home team Harbour Centre-Pampanga scored a come-from-behind 64-62 victory over the visiting Ilocos Sur Snipers, 64-62, yesterday to fortify its hold of second place in the United Regional Basketball League (URBL) First Conference at the Archbishop Cinense Gym of the University of the Assumption here.

VJ Santos, who scored nine of his 11 points in the fourth quarter, delivered the crucial baskets in the last two minutes to steer Harbour Centre-Pampanga to its third triumph in four outings.

The Ilocos Sur Snipers, in command in the early goings, fell to its third defeat in four games.

Following a 25-all count at the half, coach Mario Quitoriano turned to power forwards Francis Rauschmayer and Dondon Mendoza for the breakaway while pointguard Mike Manigo sank two triples, the last a 35-foot buzzer-beater that gave the Snipers its biggest lead, 48-38.

But Harbour Centre made sure it won't be denied on its home turf as Billy Bansil and UA alumni Alex Bognot, Pet Duyag and VJ Santos provided the relentless defense.

Bansil scored on his patented one-handed shot to threaten at 61-62, with 1:40 remaining. After trading botched plays, Bognot swiped the ball for an unmolested dunk to wrest the lead, 63-62, with 18 seconds to go.

Santos then uncorked the finishing touches. He pulled a steal off Manigo and quickly passed the ball to Bognot, who drew a quick foul and split his free throws for the final count.

The Pampanga-Ilocos Sur tussle will be televised over local Pampanga cable channel Infomax 8 from Oct. 20 to 25 at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Infomax will also televise Harbour Centre's other home games.

Meanwhile, the URBL begins the second half of the elimination phase with a double-header today at the UA campus.

The Quezon Coco Huskers, riding on the momentum of its inspiring 77-64 win over the Snipers last Monday, takes on the undefeated M. Lhuillier-Cebu City Jewelers in the 2 p.m. encounter.

Harbour Centre eyes a repeat over the Lactovitale-Cebu Province Probiotics in the main game at 4 p.m..

The Scores:

HARBOUR CENTRE 64—A Garcia 16, Santos 11, Duyag 10, Bansil 10, Bognot 6, Yambao 4, Magpayo 4, J. Mendoza 1, Ruiz 0, Solis 0, Llangco 0.

ILOCOS SUR 62—Manigo 13, Rauschmayer 9, Bernardo 9, Cardel 8, D. Mendoza 8, Yu 6, Barbosa 5, Butal 4, Hardin 0, Torrente 0.

Quarters: 13-13, 25-25, 38-48, 64-62.

STANDINGS	W	L
M. Lhuillier-Cebu City	4	0
Harbour Centre	3	1
Quezon Coco Huskers	1	3
Ilocos Sur Snipers	1	3
Lactovitale-Cebu	1	3

GAMES TODAY
(University of the Assumption Gym)
2 p.m.—Quezon Coco Huskers vs M. Lhuillier-Cebu City
4 p.m.—Harbour Centre vs Lactovitale-Cebu

Ozamiz tops Tribu Sugbu, nears crown

THE OZAMIZ Cotta subdued top-seeded Tribu Sugbu (Cebu Tribes), 93-87, Friday night in the opener of their NBC (National Basketball Conference) South division finals at the Gov. Angel Median Gym in Ozamiz City.

Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Ozamiz cagers led from start to finish as they spoiled the return of Cebu's main man, Jojo Tangkay, in the best-of-three series.

Game 2 will be played at 6 p.m. today at the Cebu Coliseum with Ozamiz needing only a victory to wrap up the South division crown of the tourney sponsored by Panasonic, Spring Cooking Oil, PCSO, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Cebu Ferries, Air Philippines, Supercat, Skygo Motorcycles, TRans-Asia, Accel and Mizuno.

Ozamiz led by 10, 78-68, going into the final quarter. But the Skygo-backed Tribes of Lito Gillamac Jr., Albert Tan and Dr. Kelly Viado rallied behind the efforts of Ruben dela Rosa, Dennis Concha and Chico Lanete to close in at 80-82.

Ozamiz's star Egay Echavez doused cold water on the Cebuano's fierce rally by scoring five straight points.

"We're very much prepared against them," said an emotional Ozamiz coach Jun da Jose later. "This is a big win for us. I expect the boys to display the same kind of intensity in Game 2."

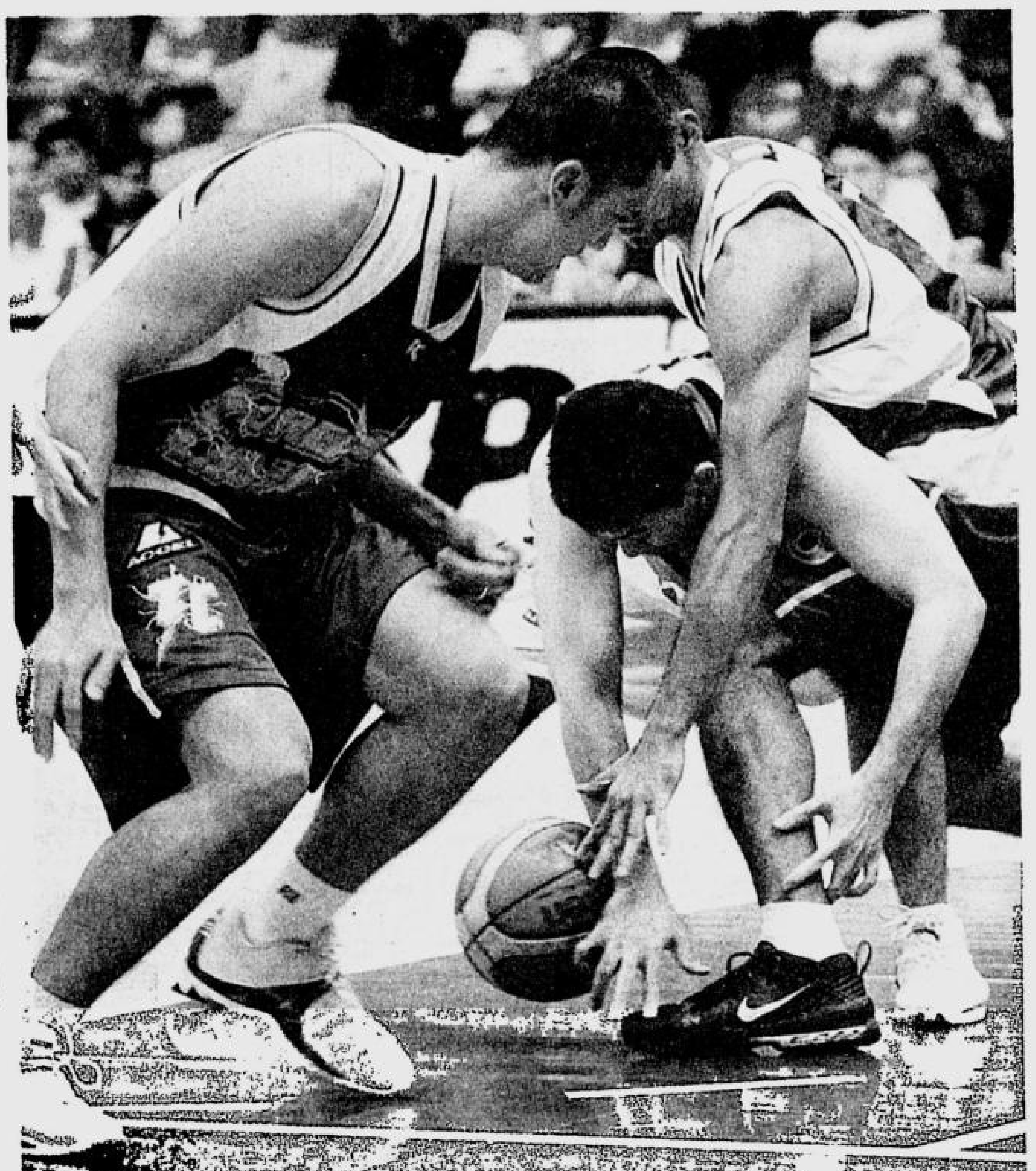
Echavez sizzled with 22 points, seven assists, two rebounds, three steals and one block to propel Ozamiz to its eighth straight victory since midway in the elimination round.

The scores:

OZAMIZ 93—Echavez 22, Basco 16, Guerrero 10, Basilides 9, Alminario 8, Rodriguez 7, Ferraren 7, Cabigkis 7, Cabrera 4, Sampilo 3, Guiyab 0, Araman 0, Libatog 0, Marquez 0.

CEBU 87—Lanete 19, Grijaldo 11, Larong 11, Tangkay 10, Concha 9, Dela Rosa 8, Almacin 7, Bucao 6, Plodo 4, Mercado 2, Elim 0, Licanda 0, Sanders 0.

Quarters: 25-17, 51-39, 78-68, 93-87.



STA. LUCIA'S Kenneth Duremdes battles for the loose ball against Shell's Rich Alvarez and Ronald Tubid in their PBA game Friday. Shell won, 84-78. *(Related story on A23)*

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Gee Abanilla likely to replace Pumaren

ABANILLA

HE'S intimate with coach Franz Pumaren's winning system.

So, if Pumaren doesn't return, Gee Abanilla should be next in line as coach of the multi-titled De La Salle Green Archers in the University Athletic Association of the Philippines.

There's a growing clamor among La Salle alumni for Abanilla to continue Pumaren's coaching legacy that has netted the Archers five UAAP titles and six Final Four appearances in a seven-year stint.

"Gee is very intimate with Pumaren's winning system. And with the team practically intact, any adjustments, if any under Abanilla, would be minimal," said Mike Gonzales, a loyalty medalist La Salle alumnus who gave the Archers the likes of Fil-Am players Alvin Castro, Willie Wilson, Mike Cortez and Mac Mac Cardona.

Gonzales, the group's spokesperson, said his sentiments were shared by staunch La Sallians like Manny Herbosa, Herman Jugo, Johnny Valdes and Clarito Ticzon.

Apart from Abanilla's seven-year partnership with Pumaren, they noted that Abanilla is "part and parcel of the La Salle family."

A La Sallian from grade school to college, the 38-year-old Abanilla was the court general who guided the Archers to back-to-back titles in 1989-1990.

Abanilla's credentials include being the assistant coach of Franz's older brother Derick at Federal Express and Purefoods in the PBA, and being Franz's deputy with La Salle- ITCSI in the PBA.

More than anything else, however, Franz has himself handpicked Abanilla as his successor if he decides to leave the Archers for good after this year's PBL Open Conference.

Canare leads lady keglers; Suarez trails Rivera by 134

DEFENDING ladies' champion Jojo Canare surged to a slim six-pin lead, but reigning World Cup champion CJ Suarez managed to rank only sixth at the start of the three-day national finals Thursday and Friday at the Starlanes along Edsa.

Canare, who took the bronze medal in the international finals last year in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, rolled a 10-game series of 2032 to inch ahead of underrated Ellen Ramos, who carded 2026, and fellow national bowlers Irene Benitez (2017) and Liza del Rosario (1924).

But Suarez had a roller-coaster game in the men's division, scoring 2434 in 12 games to finish 134 pins out of the lead.

Veteran Biboy Rivera carded 2568 to show the way, followed by Benny Dytoc, who shot a perfect 300 in the ninth game, with 2551 and four-time World Cup titlist Paeng Nepomuceno with 2519.

Another strong favorite, Chester King, came in fourth at 2481, while Gene Tonolee was fifth, 44 pins ahead of Suarez.

Only 28 bowlers each in the men's and ladies' divisions remain in contention for the next round set on Monday, Oct. 18, at SM Megamall. With their scores carried over, these contenders play another 10 and 12 games to determine the top eight, who will compete in head-to-head, best-of-three matches from the quarterfinals to the finals on Oct. 20 at Paeng's Eatwood Bowl.

Dinah Basuel was fifth in the ladies' group with 1880, followed by Vilma Fabros (1824), Lovella Catalan (1790), Nenette Enriquez (1784), Apple Posadas (1782), Lorey Chan (1768), Flor Balaba (1766), Pinky Buenaflor (1761), Luz Manzano (1722), Meg Manalo (1710), Elanine Florencio (1698), Cecille Cuesta (1697), Eden Caninos (1692), Filipina Olona (1689), Jinggay Facuri (1676), JOsie Melgarejo (1661), Annie Licarte (1661), Grace Roces (1656) and Tess Eusebio (1641).

Rockwell is it

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

MALLING has become sort of a sport, too. Not only here but also in many parts of the world.

Yes, malling has ceased to be the exclusive domain of First World countries. It's fast catching up with Third World countries. If you ask me, malling has become both First World and Third World property.

What is malling again?

Well, it's that discipline where you go to malls because your body needs to do it. Like today, Sunday, being usually the best time to go malling.

If you can't go malling, you feel sluggish. You have temper. Your mood swing is more pronounced than when you can't eat your favorite dish for one reason or another, or can't quaff your favorite poison because you're on medication. Poison a.k.a. drink.

The world was simpler then. Malling was non-existent.

We watch a movie on a Sunday and that's it. Movies then could either be found at Avenida Rizal or Azcarraga. Escolta, too. They weren't found inside a huge building, though, unlike today when large edifices usually house up to eight theaters.

From Manila, our weekend warriors shifted to Cubao—at the Araneta Center. Next came Makati.

Today, the façade has changed: Movie theaters are now inside a building that have shops in it.

Today, Metro Manila is teeming with movie houses located inside buildings—no, they aren't called buildings anymore. Malls they are called.

Thus, the word malling is born.

Malls are all over Metro Manila now: Eastwood, Podium, Greenbelt, Greenhills, Ever Gotesco, Robinsons, Glorietta, SM North Edsa/Megamall/Center Point/Fairview, etc. And, yes, Rockwell.

I've been to all of them. My favorite is Rockwell in Makati. I don't know. I'm not rich. But I find Rockwell suited to my *syano* taste.

Not cramped.

Not teeming with people.

Not complicated.

An atmosphere that is very relaxed.

Rockwell's even like a big sala, an auditorium, that after sometime, you get familiarized with faces coming and going, both famous and not. Dolphy and Zsa Zsa. Tonyboy and Margie. Titosen and Helen. Boy Cantada and son Gerard. Etcetera, etcetera. Celebrities there are a dime a dozen. They mingle with ordinary folk, elbow-to-elbow, munching on Cinnabon chocopecan or chocobon, feasting on oysters at Via Mare, or rediscovering the joy of eating rice and *dinuguan* at Milky Way.

After I had bought my first pair of Florsheim at Rockwell some years back (*pikit-mata*, eyes closed when I paid my bill), I knew I wouldn't be looking for those shoes once I get to travel to America again. In fact, I guess the Florsheim quality at Rockwell can match up with those being peddled in America's malls.

And Rockwell's theaters, wow! For me, they are the best in the world, an observation shared by many, including *Pareng* Louie Fernandez. I admit I also go to Greenbelt's theaters, but only when a movie that I badly need to see isn't showing at Rockwell.

Over at Rockwell, watching a movie is like being inside your own living room—only this time, your living room has been expanded tenfold. Sensurround and all.

And, yes, there's no parking system as efficient as the one at Rockwell. Courteous, smiling ladies handing out parking tickets to mallers. Ample space for each vehicle—be it a car, SUV or a truck.

Aren't we told that malling, like any other sport, ought to make us mentally and physically fulfilled, satisfied, after we're done?

For me, Rockwell supplies all that.

The only one.

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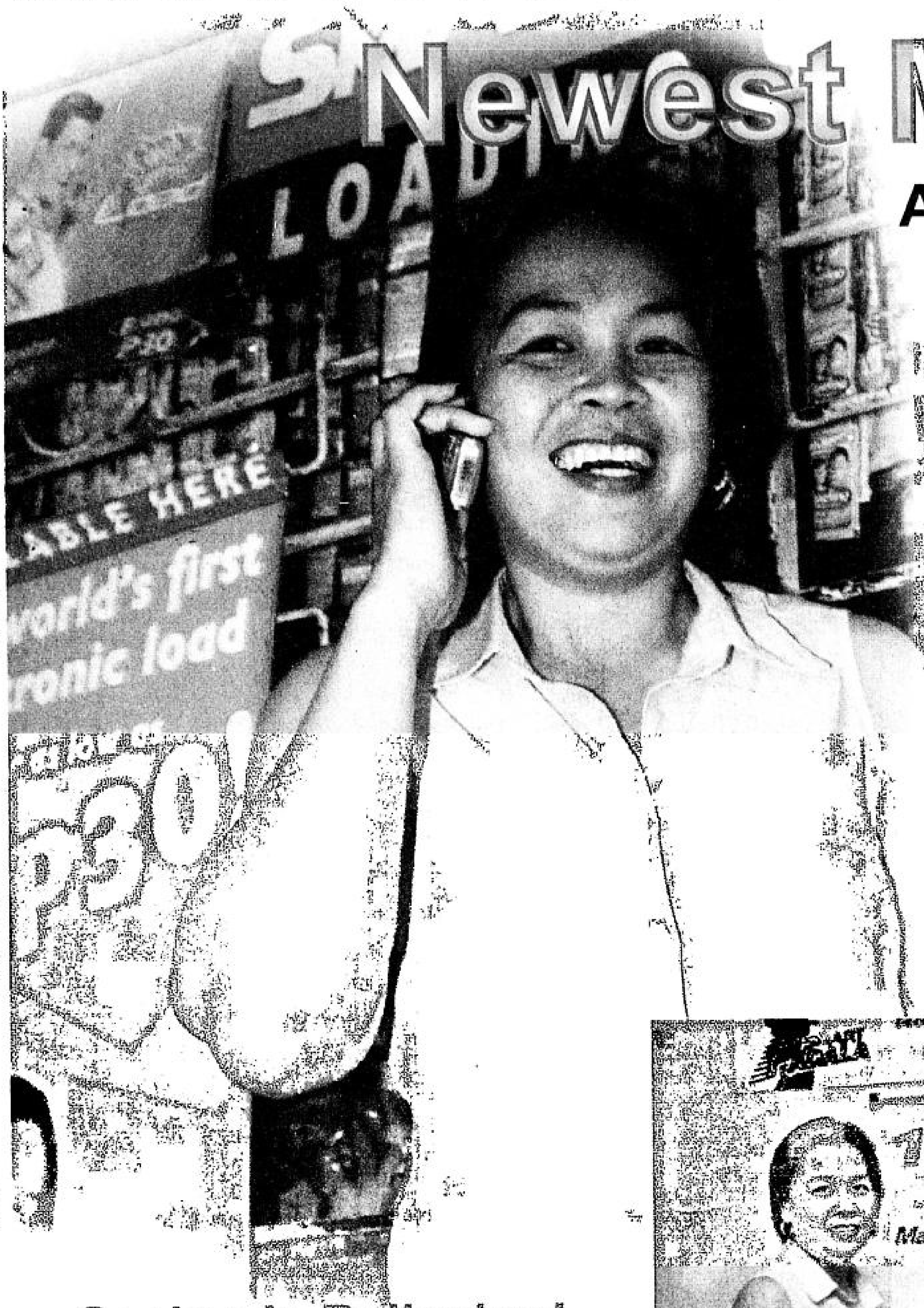
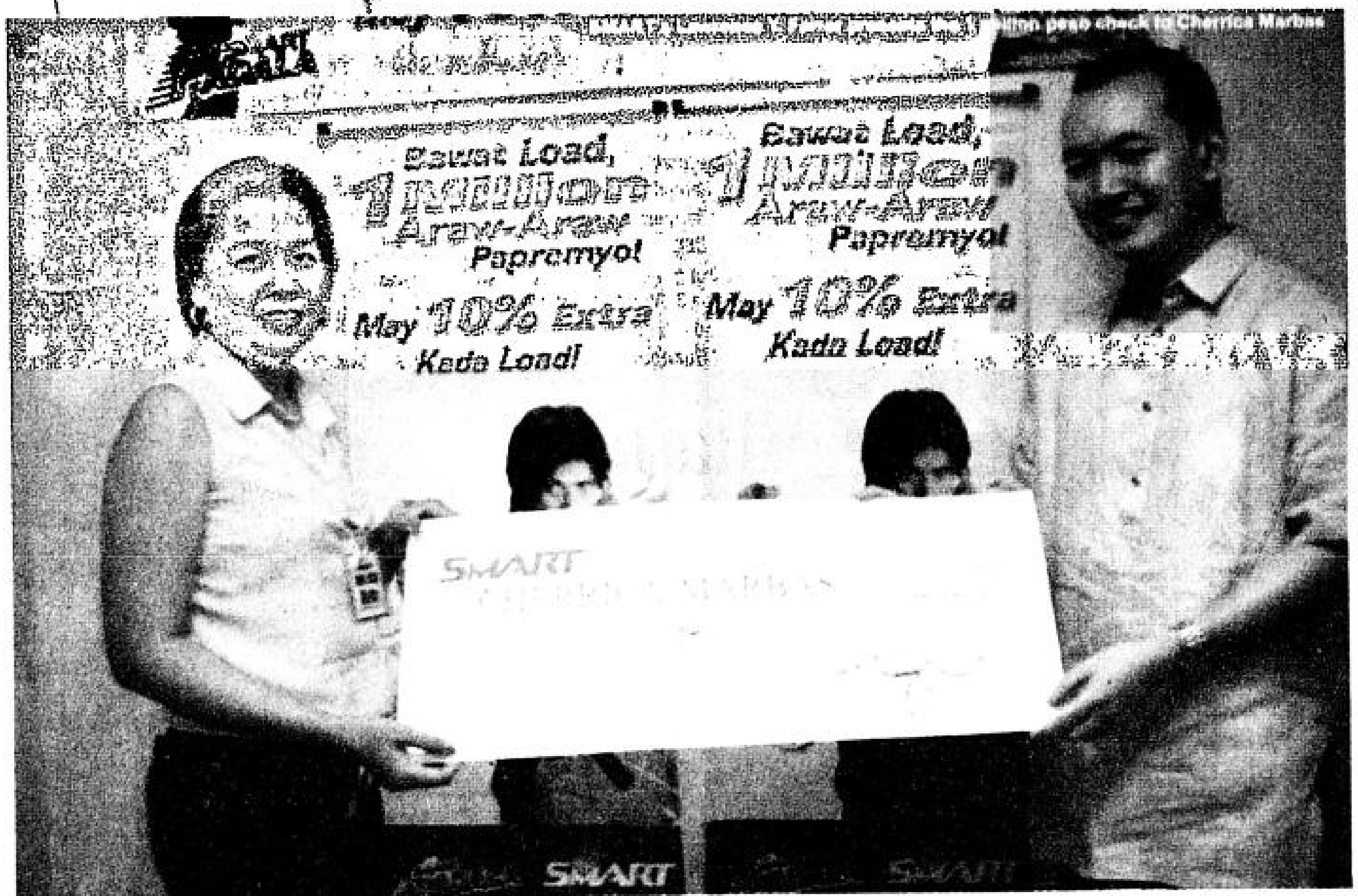
Meet Nueva Ecija's Newest Millionaire



A SMART Load Retailer is the Second 1 Million Araw-Araw Papremyo Winner

This time last week, Cherrica Marbas, 33, of San Felipe Nueva Ecija, was having a pretty routine October. The single mother of 2 young boys, Einstein and Johnver, Cherrica went about her daily chores while providing for her children as a SMART Load retailer in her neighborhood. Being a SMART retailer, Cherrica was also aware of the newest and biggest promo of SMART. Everyday, SMART subscribers get the chance to become an instant millionaire through its "1M Araw-Araw Papremyo" promo. On top of that, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text subscribers earn 10% extra load every time they top-up via Buddy Load or TnT Load, making everyone a winner!

When Cherrica found out she had won 1 million pesos after having registered and joined the 1M Araw-Araw Papremyo promo, she was naturally dumbfounded. "Sorry talaga. Medyo tinarayan ko ang SMART rep na tumawag sa akin para lang sabihin nanalo ako", she explains with a shaky voice. "Kahit na publish 'yon, 'di pa rin ako makapaniwala na totoong nanalo ako". She is very close to crying with joy at this point. And for the icing on the cake, sales of her SMART Load retail outlet had greatly improved since the launch of the promo. In fact, Cherrica was so excited about the promo that she herself repeatedly topped-up her own celfone's load, which eventually lead to her winning the 1 million pesos.


illion peso check to Cherrica Marbas

Seeing is Believing!

And who can blame her? Cherrica admits to being a veteran when it comes to dealing with scams since she, like millions of other Filipinos, has been on the receiving end of countless dubious calls from parasitical con artists out to make a quick buck. "Totoo pala ang SMART", she adds beaming. "Malaking tulong talaga itong napanalunan ko. Gusto ko i-expand ang negosyo ko at siyempre mag-ingat sa pag gastos. Naisip ko rin magpatayo ng isang SMART Padala Center." Even though she admits the feeling of winning big cannot be described with words, she keeps her feet planted firmly on the ground and doesn't allow herself to lose focus. "Bukas, iba na ang buhay ko pero ako pa rin ito", she humbly acknowledges.

To be in with a chance to be the next SMART 1M Araw-Araw Papremyo millionaire, all you need to do is register by simply texting MILYON_REG_<name>*<address>*<bday>*<gender m or f> on your SMART Buddy or Talk 'N Text celfone and send to 270. Registration is free and you then automatically earn raffle entries to the daily draws which gives you a chance to win 1 million pesos that can be used to start up your own SMART Padala Center/business. On top of that, SMART Buddy and Talk 'N Text subscribers earn 10% Extra Load instantly every time they top up via BuddyLoad or TnTLoad. So once you top-up, no need to wait days for the extra load—it's already loaded on the spot!

SMART
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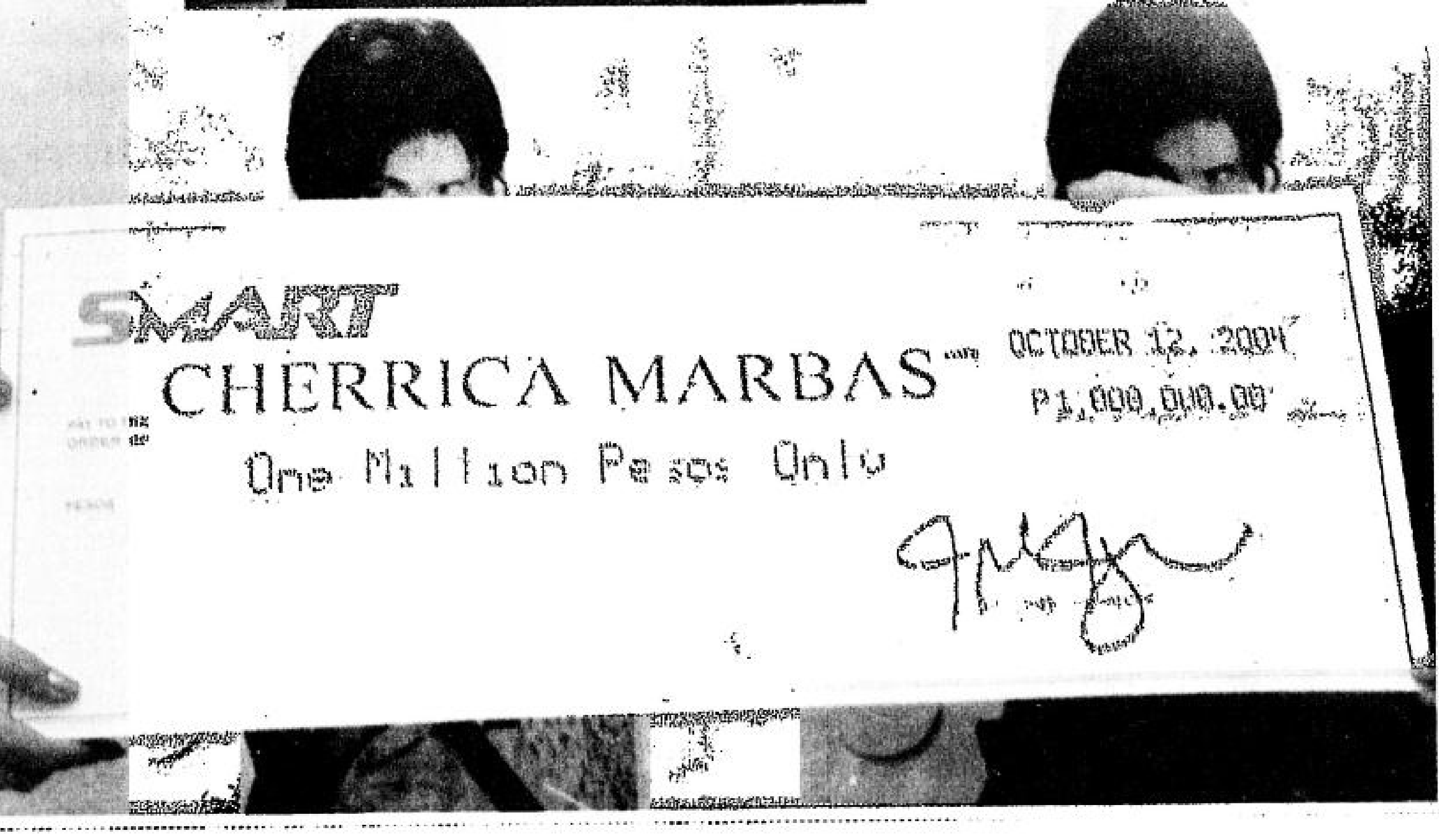
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CHESS OLYMPIAD

Team RP routs Malta

MALLORCA, Spain—Grandmaster-elect Master Mark Paragua needed only 19 moves to dispatch his opponent and trigger the Philippines' 4-0 rout of Malta in the opening round of the 36th Chess Olympiad.

GM Joey Antonio, playing the top board in lieu of fellow GM Eugene Torre, also prevailed as did Olympiad rookies IM Jayson Gonzales and NM Darwin Laylo.

Paragua, who will be conferred the GM title in the World Chess Congress late this month, disposed of David Cilia Vicenti with the white pieces, one of the quickest matches for the day.

"He made a mistake in the opening," said the 20-year-old former chess prodigy who is coming off two major victories in Alushta, Ukraine.

Laylo, the reigning national champion, followed Paragua off the playing hall after defeating Duncan Vella in 30 moves with the white pieces.

Handling black, Antonio and Gonzales took a little longer before winning their games.

An eight-time Olympian, Antonio displayed his mastery of the endgame against Colin Pace whom he beat after 40 moves of a Caro Kann while Gonzales forced Andrew Borg to lose by time forfeit after 42 moves.

Twenty-seven other nations achieved maximum result as the first round pits teams from the opposite ends of the form chart.

Second seed Ukraine threw the full weight of super GMs Vassily Ivanchuk and Ruslan Ponomariov to devastate Indonesia, 4-0, while third-ranked Israel shut out South Africa.

Singapore, Bangladesh and Iran are among the Asian countries which swept their matches.

China, the Philippines' main rival in Asia, beat Paraguay, 3-1.

PARAGUA

There were few surprises.

Lowly Iraq pulled off a 2-all draw with Croatia while India and England posted hard earned 2.5-1.5 wins over Uruguay and Turkey, respectively.

Team captain Sammy Estimo cited team chemistry and high morale for the Philippines' early success.

Torre and Emmanuel Senador, who did not see action, would again watch the games from the gallery following the team consensus to field the same lineup against Colombia Saturday.

The last time both teams met in Bled two years ago, the match ended in a 2-2 draw.

The Philippines was not as successful in the women's section, losing to Cuba, 0-5-1.5.

Rookie Loreshyl Cuison failed to capitalize on her middlegame advantage and lost to Women International Master Yaniet Marrero after 53 moves.

WIM Beverly Mendoza also dropped her first match against WGM Pina Sullenis.

Two-time national champion Sheerie Joy Lomibao averted a shutout when she held WGM Maritza Allibas to a draw. *With a report from Marlon Bernardino*

A RIZAL High School (right) spiker puts one over a Diliman Preparatory School defender during the recent Greenwich Girls Volleyball Invitational Tournament at the Southville International School in Las Piñas City. Diliman prevailed, 25-18, 25-20, for its first win in two games.

Grace leads by 4; Jenny lies at 15th

PALM DESERT, California—Grace Park followed up her 10-under-par 62 with a five-under 67 Friday to seize a four-shot lead after two rounds of the $850,000 Samsung World Championship.

The Philippines' Jennifer Rosales shot a 73 and was at 15th place with a 141 total, 12 shots off Park.

"I feel I can birdie every hole on this course," Park said. "The way I'm striking balls ... the way I've been putting the last two weeks, as long as I kept giving myself chances, I could shoot another low number."

South Korea's Park had six birdies and a bogey to post a 36-hole total of 15-under 129 and lead 19 others in the elite field.

She won the Kraft Nabisco Championship six months ago and finished second at last week's Asahi Ryokuken International Championship.

England's Karen Stupples and South Korea's Shi-Hyun Ahn were tied for second at 11-under 133 as both fired seven-under 65 at the Canyons Course at the Bighorn Golf Club.

Stupples, a two-time Tour winner this season at the Welch's-Fry's Championship and the Women's British Open, had a bogey-free round Friday. Stupples opened with four bogeys and eight birdies in a roller-coaster first round.

Ahn had six birdies on the front nine for a 30, but could only add one more birdie on the 18th.

Sweden's Annika Sorenstam, Christie Kerr, Mexico's Lorena Ochoa and Scotland's Catriona Matthew—who was second entering Friday's round—all were five shots back at 10-under 134.

Sorenstam eagled the par-five seventh, but bogeyed No. 18 for a four-under 68. She is looking for her sixth Tour victory of 2004.

"It seemed I was really not on the right side of the flag today," Sorenstam said. *AFP*

Camp John Hay to host next Samsung Tour leg

GOLFERS from the north will take the lead in the chase for tickets to the national finals in the sixth eliminations stop of the popular Samsung Amateur Tour starting with the championship division on Tuesday (Oct. 19) at the Camp John Hay course in Baguio City.

A field of about 180 players will be aiming for the top awards not just in the 72-hole championship class but in the 36-hole battles in Class A, Class B, Class C and Class D of the men's division and Class A, Class B and Class C of the ladies category.

The high-caliber Samsung Tour competitions fire off the year-end calendar of major events at Camp John Hay to be capped by the Fil-Am championships in early December.

A number of entries, according to head organizer Boy Blue Ocampo, are competing at John Hay this coming week not just for the many prizes up for grabs but also to start their early preparations for the Fil-Am.

The course-hopping Samsung Tour is also sponsored by Tokyo Tokyo, C-Lium Fiber, Gatorade, Philippine Airlines, adidas Taylor Made, KZG by Custom Clubmakers, Pink Patio Boracay, Coppertone Sport, and Rogin-E. Killer-Bee, Jam 88.3, Wave 89.1, Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite are media partners.

"It's the best time to play golf in Baguio and the course just couldn't have a better condition than what it has now," said Ocampo.

Ocampo also lauded the support of the Camp John Hay Dev't. Co. and Fil-Estate through Camp John Hay golf manager Bong Vilchez who has been on top of the course preparations.

After this week's Baguio leg, the last eliminations stop will be played at Cebu Country Club on Dec. 14-17. For inquiries, call the PSMG office at 635-00-10.

Coseteng braces for tough fight

FRONTRUNNING Jody Coseteng of SMB Strong Ice-Caltex Havoline tries to keep his precarious lead against tough rivals Rey Reyes and Dominic Bon as the 2004 PCSO Grand Prix stages its penultimate leg this weekend, Oct. 23-24, at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Coseteng, despite a mess up with Enzo Pastor in the last race, kept his hold of the top in the National Touring Car Championship with 91 points in this event sanctioned by the Automobile Association of the Philippines and sponsored by Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office through Hon. Rosario Uriarte, Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation, Toyota Motors Philippines, Norkis Yamaha, Kilton Motors and MOF Company.

But Reyes and Bon both gained grounds to pose as big threats to Coseteng's title defense in this series also supported by Yokohama, Standard Insurance, Macnell Architectural Paints, NU 107, Dunkin' Donuts and Alaska.

Reyes, backed up by Tropical Ice and Matonetics Engine Dynamics, moved up second overall just three points behind with 88 while Bon is third with 87 points.

A similar incident or a costly error could spell big pressure to Coseteng's bid for the Driver of the Year award in the championship round this December.

MADRIGAL TRIUMPHS: Alessandra Madrigal, 8, of Team Alessandra-PCR proved her tag as the future karting superstar when she ruled the Cadet 60 class anew in the seventh leg of the 2004 PCSO-Shell Karting at the Kart Trak inside the Boom na Boom complex.

San Andres shares Supercross spotlight

CALTEX-REVTEX standout rider Kenneth San Andres snared a dazzling victory in the Novice Open to share the spotlight in the Camel Supercross Championships at the race track near the Gaisano Mall in Bacolod City recently.

San Andres, who with Revtex Rocket Glenn Aguilar form the vaunted 1-2 punch of the Revtex Motocross Team, posted a full lap victory in the second heat.

"Kenneth has again proved his worth in the Novice Open competition in which the Rookie of the Year will be chosen," said San Andres' father-coach, Jun-Jun.

San Andres, who is also supported by JBS Motorcycle Shop, KTM, Oakley, HJC Helmet, Renthal, Fox, UFO and Sukida Motorcycles, also took part in the more challenging Pro Expert 125, where he placed fourth behind his teammates Aguilar and Bebet de la Cruz and rival Jovie Saulog.

Pacquiao-Delada tussle shapes up

Salven L. Lagumbay,
Contributor

AN EXCITING undercard is shaping up in the mammoth Dec. 4 event in Taguig featuring featherweight king Manny Pacquiao.

If things go according to plans, Pacquiao's younger brother, Bobby, would be defending his Philippine super featherweight crown against Cebu-based No. 2 contender Dexter Delada of the Wakee Salud Stable in the top supporting bout.

However, Delada needs to hurdle Al Deliguer first on Oct. 23 in a 10-rounder underneath the Randy Suico-Ibrahim Aroby card in Lapu-Lapu City.

The younger Pacquiao, who is currently training at the Wild Card Gym of world-renowned trainer Freddie Roach, will be definitely tested by the once-beaten Delada, who is trained by Cebu trainer Brix Flores at the Wakee Salud boxing gym.

Sources said the fight contracts are ready to be signed by the two boxers.

Pacquiao (20-10-3, 9 KOs) left for the United States last month with his more illustrious brother and Cebu phenom Z Gorres following an important decision victory over Baby Lorona Jr in their fifth encounter.

Delada (8-1, 6 KOs) is coming off a decision win over Julius Tarona on June 27 immediately after his shock defeat at the hands of journeyman Nonoy Gonzales in April, which derailed an earlier plan to pit him against Pacquiao.

Boxing at GC Mall

SOME of Cebu's top amateur boxers will see action in a card marking Gaisano Country Mall's 11th anniversary on Tuesday, Oct. 19.

Seeing action in the card are multi-awarded Rey Caitom and the Banal brothers—Nic and Alex John.

The bemedalled Caitom goes up against upcoming Edmar Tunacao, Nicolas Banal will trade blows with pro-bound Giegie Balataria while Alex Banal of Barangay Ermita will tangle with professional boxer Speedy Boy Garzo in a special "pro-am" exhibition bout.

The rest of the card pits George Cande of G&E Boxing Club against Rey Maglente of Liloan, Leyte; Tagbilaran's Benjie Aceron against UV's Rey Maningo; Malaysian Melphine Isian against G&E's Brian "F4" Rizane; Pardo's Jojo Intor against Donewell's Jopit Mancao; Cabancalan NHS's Rasshied Bacus against Barili's Alvin Pugoy; Pitos NHS's Sherwin Oporto versus Ariel Villamor; UV's Jelo Ruiz against Cabancalan NHS's Raniel Del Castillo. *Salven Lagumbay*

SPORTSWATCH

Fistorama features Lobo-Romulo tiff

SAMSUNG'S Fistorama today features two action-filled four-round bouts. Jonathan Lobo faces Michael Romulo in the super-flyweight division while Denver Cuello squares off with Pit Anacaya in the minimum-weight category. The bouts were held recently at the Angono Municipal Gym in Angono, Rizal. Fistorama is aired weekly in the United States, Europe, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and other parts of the world through ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV. The show is aired at 2 p.m., Sundays, on RPN-9 and is sponsored by Samsung Electronics Philippines Corp., PCSO, Mapecon and Tanduay Rhum. Golf Power, supported by Samsung, Tanduay, and IBank, follows at 3 p.m.

VILLAGE HOOPS: adidas Sports Kamp (aSK) president Arsenic Laurel led the ceremonial toss of the PLDT-myDSL Village Hoops at the adidas Sports Kamp basketball court, Bonifacio Global City in Taguig. Also present were deputy commissioner Bong Go and Talk 'N Text guard Willie Miller.

San Beda-Alabang, Miriam, RTU cop 2nd

HOST school San Beda College Alabang, Miriam College and Rizal Technological University salvaged second runner-up honors yesterday in the WNCAA 35th season basketball and volleyball tournament at the St. Scholastica's College gym. The winner-take-all championship games, meanwhile, begin today, with Lyceum of the Philippines defending its seniors volleyball crown against University of the Assumption-Pampanga at 11:30 a.m. while taking on defending champion College of St. Benilde in seniors basketball at 2:30 p.m. The SBCA Lions turned back newcomer La Salle College Antipolo, 25-18, 25-14, 15-25, 25-19, in juniors volleyball. RTU leaned on the game-high 21 markers of Karen Blancaflor to overturn Centro Escolar University, 63-48, and retain third place in seniors basketball. Sibaya Sadorra scored 25 points to help Miriam land third place in the juniors division with a 68-50 win over SBCA.

Deport Taulava . . .

From page A23

prove that one of his parents was also a Filipino and that his roots were from Sagay, Negros Occidental.

"Peña's filiation was established. There are many Peñas in Sagay," the official said.

The source said the DOJ decided to include Taulava in its ruling despite an injunction from the Manila Regional Trial Court that was supposed to stop it from looking into the cager's case.

"We cannot allow an injunction to make an alien a Filipino. If that happens, then other aliens would just get an injunction from the courts," the official said.

He said the DOJ has asked Solicitor General Alfredo Benipayo to ask the Manila RTC to lift the injunction.

Meanwhile, PBA chair Buddy Encarnado and commissioner Noli Eala reiterated the decision of the Board of Governors to respect and abide by the decision of the DOJ on the questioned players.

"As a group, regardless of our position, we must recognize the authority of the DOJ. If it's already official, there's no other choice but to follow it as agreed upon by the board," said Encarnado.

In an emergency meeting last month, the PBA board agreed to immediately suspend the Fil-foreign players who will be recommended by the DOJ for deportation.

"The players can appeal but based on the board's ruling, they will be automatically suspended as soon as we get the official communication from the DOJ," said Encarnado.

Eala shared Encarnado's insights on the board's resolution on the DOJ ruling.

"We want to get the official copy first before making a statement. But as far as the PBA is concerned, our position is final. We will follow the DOJ decision and implement it," said Eala.

The Senate Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports had earlier ordered the Bureau of Immigration in August last year to deport Taulava and the others for allegedly faking their citizenship. *With a report from June Navarro*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Aussie jockeys strut wares in KDJM festival

REAL Spicy:
Top favorite

HOW will the country's best fare against three classy Australian jockeys? That will be known when the likes of Pat Dilema, Jeff Zarate and Jonathan Hernandez pit skills against the visitors from Down Under in the third Klub Don Juan de Manila festival from Oct. 21-24 at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite.

Bernadette Cooper, Alana Dawn Sansom and David O'Heare, each sporting enviable credentials, will arrive on Tuesday, Oct. 19, raring to show their riding savvy in an Australia versus Philippines racing showdown.

"It's all systems go for the KDJM cavalcade and we look forward to a bristling, never-before-seen excitement on the track," said Sonny Arevalo, president of the KDJM, which on Oct. 22 will hold in tandem with Australia's Magic Millions the nation's first-ever International Thoroughbred Auction sale with almost 100 horses up for grabs.

The P2 million Derby, and P500,000 Magic Millions Guineas, Golden Girl and Juvenile headline the spectacle supported by Philracom, Manila Jockey Club Inc., Fort Ilocandia Hotel and Casino, Motolite and Norkis-Yamaha.

Edwin Villanueva

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The U.P. College of Medicine is now accepting applicants for admission into First Year Medicine Proper for Academic Year 2005 – 2006. Application forms are available at the Admissions Office, UP College of Medicine. Absolute deadline for submission of application forms and requirements: **December 10, 2004**

Philtobo racefest kicks off

By Edwin Villanueva, *contributor*

EMPIRE King and Cover Girl may be the stars but Real Spicy will be the galloper to watch when the 5th Philtobo Grand Championship Day blasts off today at the Santa Ana Park.

Already tipped as next year's hottest bet for the Triple Crown, Real Spicy is expected to be sent away as the heavy pick in the Mitra Cup Juvenile Colts, one of six major events to be contested in the racefest staged by the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization.

Real Spicy, a son of 1998 US Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes winner Real Quiet, is spearheading another bid by the powerhouse Hermie Esguerra Stable to dominate the 2-year-old bracket since Lamborghini and coupled bet Ocean Deep are also the solid favorites to fight it out for first place in the Mitra Cup Juvenile Fillies.

"He's raring to run already. His workouts are good," said ace jockey Pat Dilema on Real Spicy who will be ranged against Montezuma, Smokin' Red, Sir Henry and stablemate War Alert.

Empire King is also said to be in tip-top shape despite a brief layoff as he guns for a win in the 3-Year-Old Colts, while Cover Girl heads the cast in the 3-Year-Old Fillies.

Rounding out the featured events in the spectacle sponsored by Philracom, PCSO, PRCI, Herma Farms, Ranchito San Gabriel, Motolite, Magic Millions Ltd. Australia, Unilever, EEG, Papiroman, Rolling Green and Money Tree farms are the Philtobo Open headed by West Bound, and the Classic topbilled by High Octane and Lord of All.

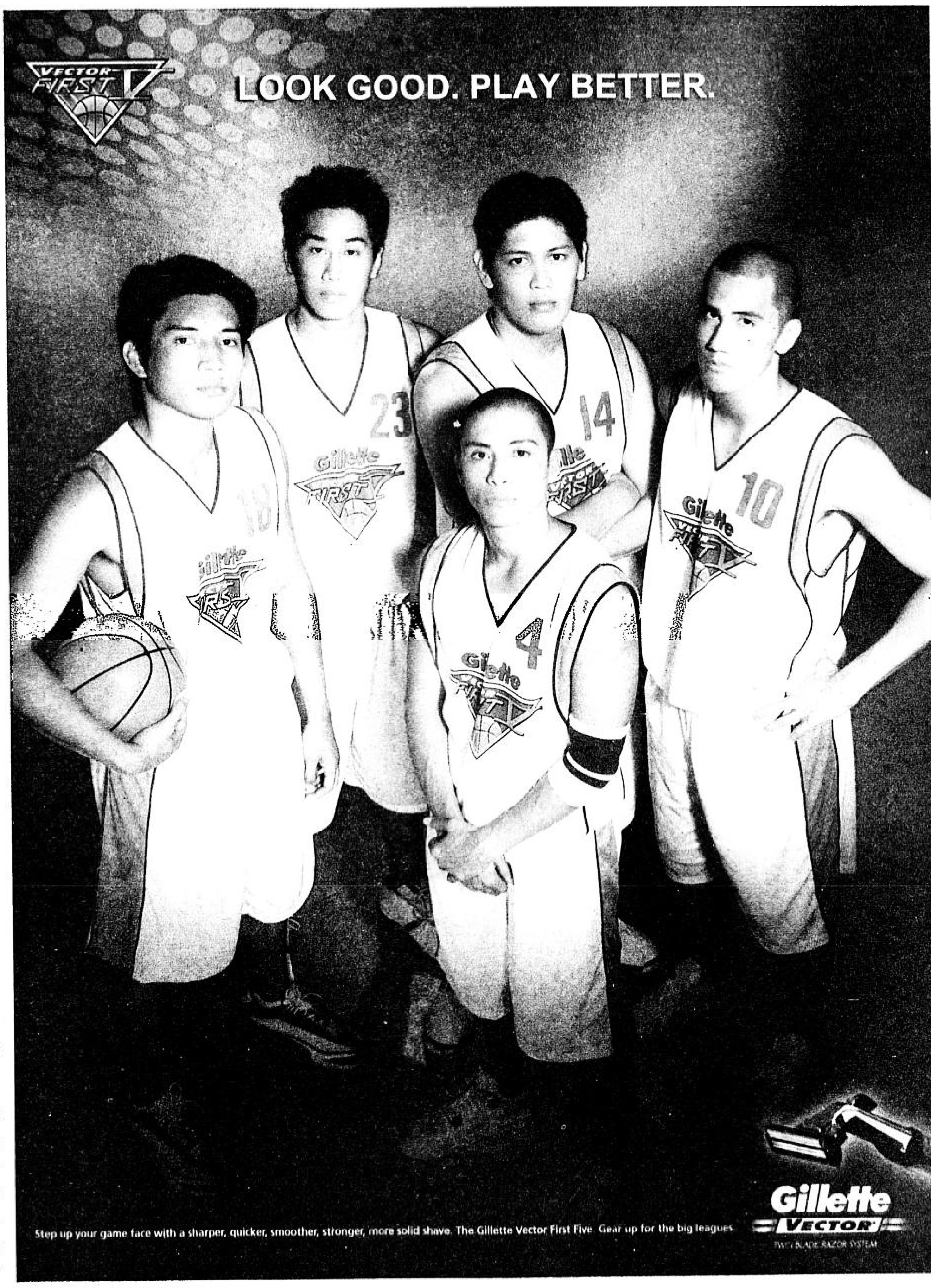
"We're all set for this year's Philtobo racefest. We're inviting the *bayang karerista* to come over and watch today's events at Santa Ana," said Philtobo president Bienvenido "Nonoy" Niles Jr.

Meanwhile, Philtobo director Manny Viray said highlights of the Grand Championship Day will be shown starting at 9 tonight over Solar Sports Plus.

Also expected to grace the affair are Philtobo chair emeritus Don Antonio Floirendo, chair Tonet Lagdameo, vice president Koko Cayco, secretary Joy Rojas, treasurer Jess Cantos and directors Michael Trillana, Tito de Jesus, Albert Yam, Edd Gonzalez, Mar Tirona, Jun Sevilla, Ernesto Logarta Jr., Ed Moreno, Honorato Neri and Viray.

RACING TIPS
AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Doña Gelay 2. Andee's Time 3. Commodore Tiger
Race 2--1. D As in Dixie 2. Rock Attack Attack 3. Man Power 4. Aya's Star
Race 3--1. Real Spicy/War Alert 2. Montezuma
Race 4--1. Royal Catch/Ragini 2. Being There 3. Mossette
Race 5--1. Lamborghini/OceanDeep 2. In Command
Race 6--1. Suppressed/Marque 2. Wedding Vows 3. Wear the Fox Hat 4. Queen of Diamonds
Race 7--1. Cover Girl 2. Moab/Concorde 3. Cool Runnings
Race 8--1. Sharp Drive 2. Lord Brian 3. Rule and Reign 4. Sweet Talk 5. Native Prince
Race 9--1. Empire King 2. Shadowfax/Fear Factor 3. Nothing to Declare/Semper Spirit
Race 10--1. Magic Dancer 2. Gigi's Gold 3. Queen Banana 4. Hurry Prince 5. Money Order
Race 11--1. Lord of All 2. High Octane
Race 12--1. West Bound 2. Ouzo/Real Slew 3. Catwalk Pia 4. Lyonnais
Race 13--1. Speed Admiral 2. Ocean Cookie 3. Western Dancer 4. Reporter
Race 14--1. Angel Eyes 2. Big Mama 3. Ravensworth 4. Sham Sham 5. Water Girl 6. Ocean Magic



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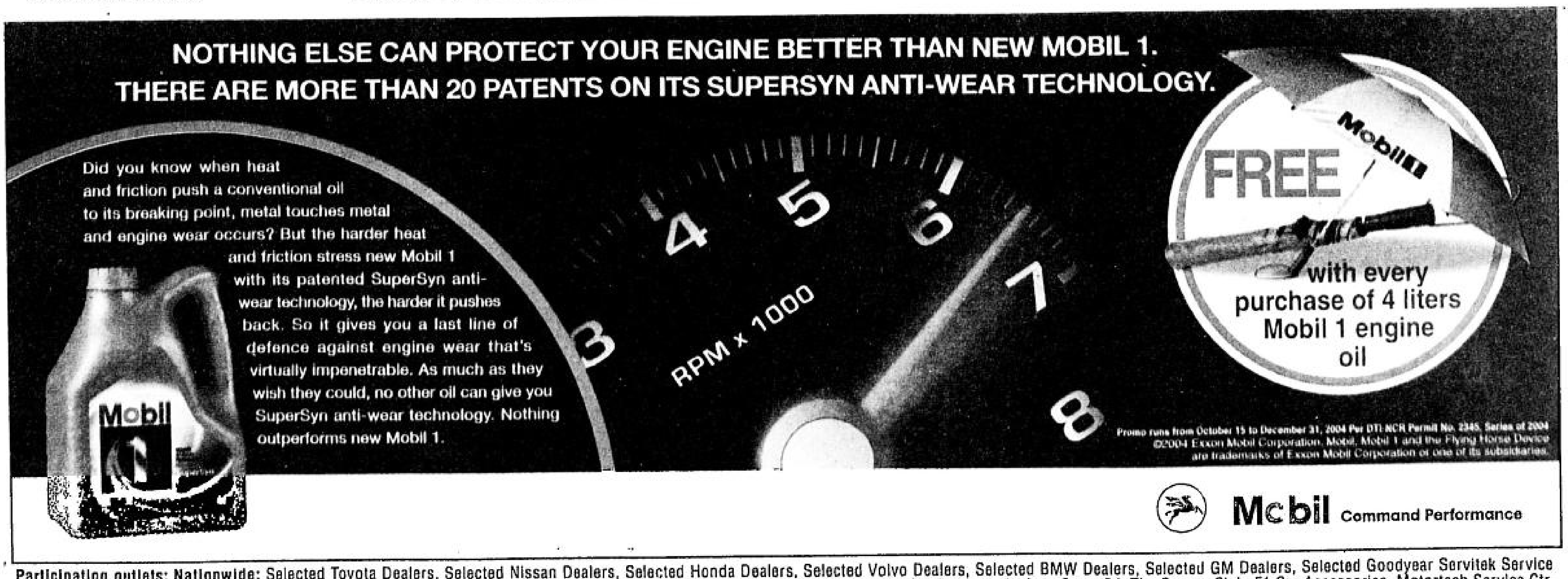
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Rain washes out NY-Boston Game 3

BOSTON—Steady rain Friday night forced Major League Baseball to postpone Game 3 of the American League Championship Series between the Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees.

The steady rain began about two hours before the scheduled 8:19 p.m. start, and fell harder at about 8 p.m. MLB announced the postponement at 8:05 p.m.

The best-of-seven series, which New York leads 2-0, is scheduled to resume Saturday night at Fenway Park. Game 4 will be Sunday night and Game 5, if necessary, on Monday at 5:10 p.m.

The National Weather Service forecast called for mostly cloudy skies for Saturday night, with a 50-percent chance of showers. The temperature was expected to dip below 10 degrees Celsius (50 Fahrenheit).

Bronson Arroyo remains scheduled to pitch Game 3 for Boston against New York's Kevin Brown, and Tim Wakefield is to start Game 4 for the Red Sox against Orlando Hernandez.

Boston manager Terry Francona hasn't decided whether Game 2 loser Pedro Martinez would replace Derek Lowe, his scheduled Game 5 starter.

"I know that's a possibility," Francona said. "When the time comes, we'll announce what we think is in our best interests. I think first we need to find out what we think is in our best interests."

New York manager Joe Torre and pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre were leaning against changing their rotation to move up Mike Mussina, who beat Curt Schilling in the opener. Mussina remained scheduled to start Game 5.

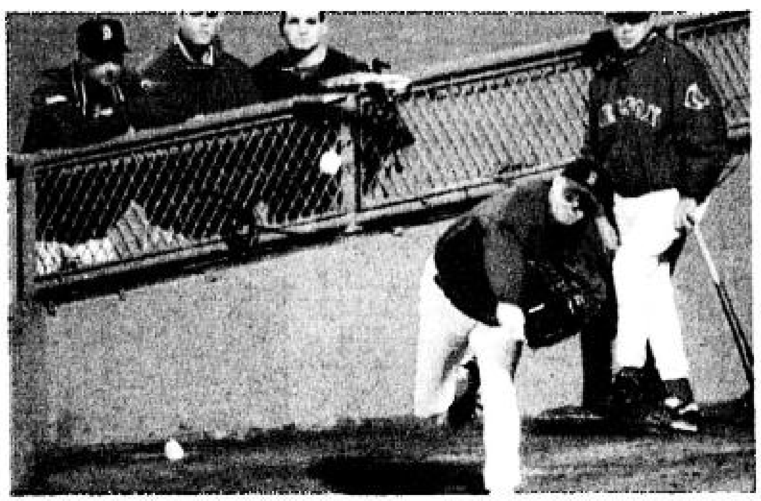
"We felt yesterday, and we talked a little bit today, that we'll probably stay with the (Nos.) 3, 4 guys," Torre said.

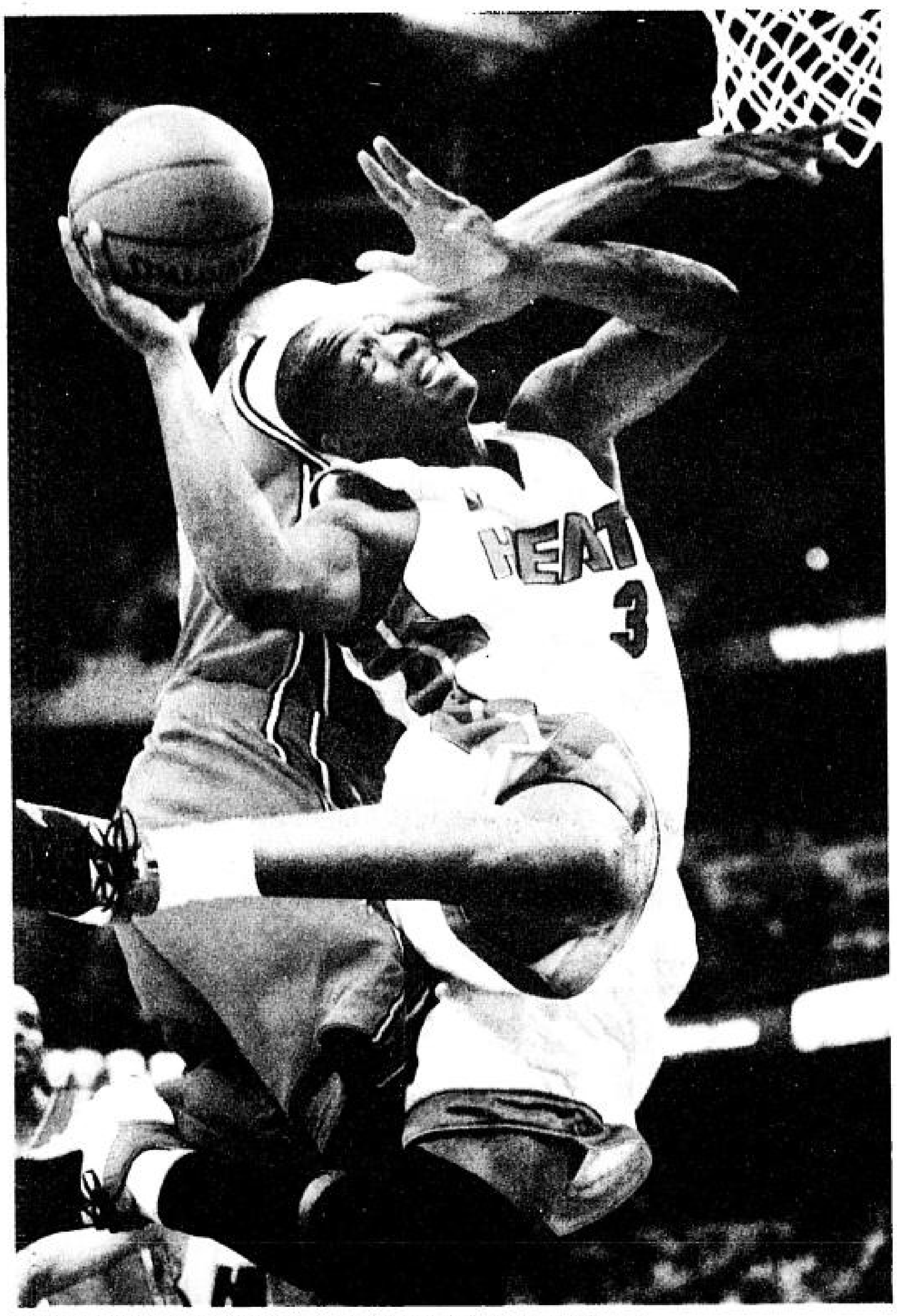
Schilling, unable to start Game 5 because of his ailing right ankle, threw for about 15 minutes in the bullpen about two hours before game time, but not at full strength. Twice, he stopped to tweak his shoe as about nine Red Sox officials, doctors and trainers kept a close eye on him.

There was no immediate announcement on his availability.

Because of the rainout, the teams would lose the off-day if the series goes beyond five games. Game 6 remains scheduled for Yankee Stadium on Tuesday night.

Last year, Game 4 at Fenway Park was postponed, causing the teams to lose the travel day of the series, which New York won 4-3.


CURT Schilling (second from right), scratched off the Red Sox roster for Game 5, practices in front of Boston's coaching staff. REUTERS


DWAYNE Wade picks up the slack for Miami in the absence of Shaq.

Heat triumph minus O'Neal

TAMPA, Florida—With Shaquille O'Neal out of the lineup due to a tight left hamstring, the Miami Heat got 18 points from Dwayne Wade and Udonis Haslem and beat the Orlando Magic, 95-89, in a preseason game Friday night.

Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said O'Neal is also expected to sit out Saturday's game against the defending NBA champion Detroit Pistons.

O'Neal said he hurt the hamstring at practice earlier in the week.

"I'm good ... being cautious," said the 7-foot-1 (2.16-meter) All-Star center who scored 17 points in his Miami debut, an 85-75 loss to the Houston Rockets on Oct. 10.

When asked about when he would return, O'Neal said "whenever they say I can."

Without O'Neal, the Heat relied on the scoring of Wade and Haslem for their first preseason victory. Miami was outrebounded on the defensive boards 29-27, and 46-40 overall.

Haslem had 11 points in the first half, helping the Heat to a 50-40 lead at the break. Wade scored nine points in the third quarter as the Heat built a 75-67 advantage.

Steve Francis, Dwight Howard, the first overall selection in the NBA draft, and Jameer Nelson, the 2003-04 national college player of the year, each scored 17 points for Orlando.

Grant Hill scored eight points in 29 minutes in his second game after missing all of last season with an injured left ankle.

O'Neal, acquired from the Lakers in a blockbuster trade about a month after Los Angeles lost to Detroit in the NBA Finals, said Friday he hopes to play another five or six seasons, and again expressed interest in owning an NBA team after retiring.

"Of course I'm getting older," the 32-year-old O'Neal said. "But if it ever gets to the point where I can't do it, then I'll call you guys and we'll have a beautiful press conference and we'll have a beautiful Shaq Farewell Tour.

"I'm getting older. I'm getting sexier. I'm getting meaner. I can still do what I do."

In other preseason matches, Philadelphia nipped Toronto, 99-97, while Chicago tripped New Orleans, 103-100, in overtime. *AP*

Els continues bid for 6th world title

WENTWORTH, England—Defending champion Ernie Els continued his relentless quest for a record breaking sixth World Match Play title when he beat Argentina's Angel Cabrera in their quarterfinal clash here on Friday.

But Els had to wait until the 36th hole to seal victory and even then it took an eight-foot putt to book his semifinal spot.

"It was tough," said the South African. "There are no easy games in this championship. It was a seesaw battle all day. I had a really good start this afternoon and then let him back into it.

"I missed quite a few putts but getting through the first two rounds, certainly you start getting some momentum going."

Earlier in the day he completed his first round match against Scott Drummond, winning 2 and 1.

The world No. 2 will now meet a bloodied Padraig Harrington on Saturday after the Irishman beat his fellow Ryder Cup teammate Thomas Levet 1 up in a tense finish.

Harrington not only had to battle Levet but an injured thumb as the abundant tree life that surrounds the famed Burma Road course was taking its toll on the Dubliner.

In the morning round Harrington broke his 4-iron when his follow through wrapped round a tree. He was lucky to escape injury.

He was not so lucky in the afternoon when on the ninth hole he again wrapped his club around a tree, smashing his thumb and cutting it against the trunk.

For a moment it looked like it might be even more serious as Harrington grimaced in pain but after some treatment on the course by a team of first aid helpers he was able to continue.

But Harrington admitted afterwards that the injury was causing him problems trying to swing the club.

"I struggled for any feeling in the thumb. I couldn't grip the club. I realized I wasn't going to be able to hit good shots coming home. I told myself don't try and make a swing. Just get the ball down the fairway anyway you can," he explained. *AFP*

ERNIE Els celebrates a quarterfinal win. AFP

Allen labels Kobe selfish

SEATTLE, Washington—Seattle Supersonics star Ray Allen has slammed Kobe Bryant for being "selfish" and predicted the Lakers' team leader might request a trade if Los Angeles can't build a National Basketball Association winner.

"If Kobe doesn't see he needs 2 1/2 good players to be a legitimate playoff contender or win a championship in about a year or two he'll be calling out to (owner) Jerry Buss that 'We need some help in here,' or 'Trade me,'" Allen told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. "And we'll all be saying, 'I told you so,' when he says that."

Allen is just the latest to lob verbal jabs at Bryant, who has taken a lot of heat in the past few weeks from former teammate Shaquille O'Neal and ex-coach Phil Jackson.

"He's going to be very selfish," Allen predicted of Bryant who signed a seven-year, $136 million deal three months ago.

"And he feels like he needs to show this league and the people in this country that he is better without Shaq. That he can win championships without Shaq.

So offensively, he's going to jump out and say, 'I can average 30 points. I can still carry the load on this team.'" *AFP*

Myskina boots out Davenport

MOSCOW—Anastasia Myskina edged an off-color Lindsay Davenport, 6-4, 7-6, in a tight battle between the defending champion and the new world No. 1 to reach the Kremlin Cup final for a second year in a row on Saturday.

The French Open champion converted her first break point in the 10th game to take the opening set. Then, after both players were broken twice in the second set, the Russian raced away with a tiebreaker, 7-1, to clinch the match in 78 minutes.

"I wanted to keep the points short today as I wasn't feeling well," said the second-seeded American, who regained the No. 1 spot from injured Amelie Mauresmo by winning her opening match at the $2.3 million Moscow tournament.

"I made too many errors at the wrong time as I had to go for the big shots because I knew I couldn't stay very long on the court today," she added. "I had a hard time with my chest and with my head. I wasn't 100 percent ready for the game today." *Reuters*

Cyan keeps lead; Magenta strikes

MARIA-Cyan kept its grip of the overall lead, but it was Auxilio-Magenta that made the biggest strides yesterday, leaning on a pair of dramatic sweeps from its level C2 heroines to leapfrog to second place in the 1st MARP Cup INQUIRER badminton tournament at the Court Zone badminton hall yesterday.

Marife Reyes and Emily Millare fought off six match points in the second set while Alexa Bacay and Dianne Villafuerte also snatched a sweep from the jaws of an imminent second set loss in a pair of tensely-fought matches as Auxilio claimed the final four points to beat Prieto-Black, 13-9, and hike its total to 23 points.

A point up in first place is the powerhouse Maria squad, which bucked a mild hiccup in its opening game to nip Rufino-Yellow, 12-10.

Rufino is now at third going into next Saturday's final round with 20 points while Prieto slipped to fourth with 19.

Auxilio showed up minus skipper John Nery, Celine Madamba and Joey Villareal due to injuries and the team members wore patches on their left breasts bearing their initials.

That fired up the squad as the duos of Carlo Mercado and Prescy Frago and Gilbert Rago and Michael Cucio kept their unbeaten streak going with 2-0 wins. Also unbeaten for Auxilio were Millare and Reyes while contributing another 2-0 result was the pair of Alison Lopez and Francis Ochoa. Villafuerte earlier teamed up with Karen Garcia for another sweep in the tournament held in honor of PDI chair Marixi Prieto.

Prieto got two points from Bong Viray and Jojo Isles; Cio Francisco and Genie Lagman; Abel Ulanday and Ruth Navarra; and Chona Gomez and Richard Cuaresma.

Masoy Cabuhat and Ning Lalicon keyed Maria's early run with a two-point finish. Dennis Alcaraz and Nilo Alterado; Adela Mendoza and Sonny Cruz; Angie Aguila and Arnold Gatdula; and Adelle Geraldo and Imee Alcantara also contributed two points for Maria.

Rufino's two-pointers were Joel Macawile and Jojo Samonte; Ruby dela Cruz and Boying Ilagan; Chona Agustin and Darwin Romanillos; and Mylene de Jesus and Tess dela Cruz.

GRACE UNDER PRESSURE
Grace Park of South Korea, tees off during the Samsung World Championship in Palm Desert, California. After opening the tournament with a 10-under 62, Park finished with a 67 to open a four-shot lead over Shi Hyun Ahn and Karen Stupples in the 20-player event. Park was 15 under on the Big Horn Golf Club's Canyons Course. AP

Alabang sweeps Platinum Cup assignments

By Musong R. Castillo

ALABANG Country Club swept its first-day assignments yesterday to top Group A of the Battle of the Courts: Platinum Inter-Club badminton championships' south eliminations at the Olivarez courts in Parañaque.

Alabang had only four players and did not field a team in the ladies' doubles, but the team frolicked with Paul Martinez and Arnie Brizuela and Fisher Chua and Thea del Rosario going undefeated in three matches in the men's doubles and mixed doubles events, respectively.

The Palms Country Club will also go into the second day of eliminations this morning without a loss, topping Group B with a 4-0 record after victories over Olivarez, Camp Badminton FTI, Leap 'N Smash and Alabang Racquet Club.

Alabang Country Club was still the story of the day in the event presented by Globe Platinum and INQUIRER Badminton as it posted impressive victories over South Central and Anvil before walking over Badder's Club.

Anvil, Intramuros Badminton Club and Powerzone were tied for second place in Group A with 2-1 cards. All have two games left starting at 9 a.m. today. Other Group B matches were still going on at presstime.

Martinez and Brizuela dropped just eight points in a 15-6, 15-2 defeat of South Central before whipping Anvil's Noriel Andrade and Ramon Villarin, 15-0, 15-6.

Chua and Del Rosario were merciless in a 15-0, 15-1 whipping of South Central. They showed class in winning the second match that went through a deciding set, 15-9, 12-15, 7-0.

The top two placers in each group will advance to the cross-over semifinals later today with the winners earning spots in the grand championship scheduled next month at the Market! Market! at the Bonifacio Global City.

Valle Varde Pasig and Player's Best of Marikina won their semifinal matches in the East Sector eliminations and are assured of seats in the grand finals.

The tournament then shifts to the Central eliminations next weekend in courts in Mandaluyong and Makati.

JOHNNY Arcilla, (right) kisses his trophy after winning the first Enervon Men's Open Singles Tennis Championship over fever stricken Joseph Victorino.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Arcilla clinches 7th title for year

JOHNNY Arcilla lived up to his billing as the country's No. 1 tennis player by ruling the first Enervon Open singles championship yesterday at the Makati Sports Club.

Displaying awesome form, the 24-year-old Southeast Asian Games veteran downed fellow national and second seed Joseph Victorino, 7-5, 2-0 (retired), for his seventh title this year.

Arcilla survived doubles partner and fifth seed Adelo Abadia, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, while Victorino struggled past fellow national player and third seed Rolando Ruel, 4-6, 7-6 (7), 6-4, in the semifinals.

"I gambled with my game. If I had the chance, I went to the net. I kept surprising him with different shots," said Arcilla, who received the champion's purse of P38,000 and a trophy from Unilab assistant vice president Alvin So and tournament organizer Johnny Jose.

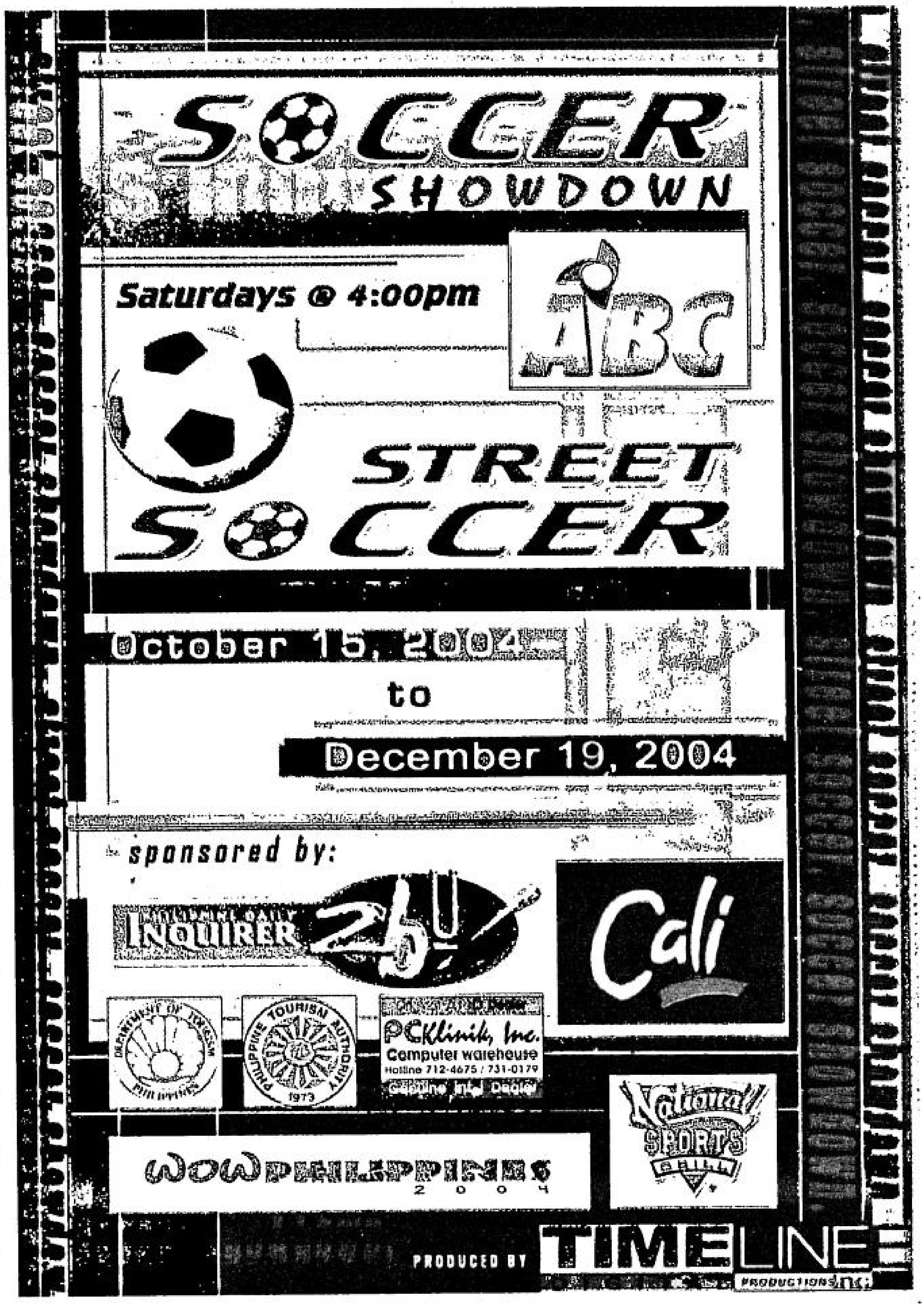
"Maybe, I took advantage of his health condition. But despite his fever, Victorino played a very good game. *Parang walang sakit* ," said Arcilla, who trailed, 4-5, before winning the next three games in the first set.

"I hope I can keep my level of performance and win more tournaments," said Arcilla, who also won in Marawi City, Misamis City, Mandaue, Cagayan de Oro, Mandaluyong and Subic this year.

Victorino, who managed to play and win his semifinal match despite nursing a fever last Friday, put up a strong challenge in the first set but was forced to quit after two games in the second set.

"I felt weak already after the first set. I really wanted to finish the match but my body cannot continue playing," said the 20-year-old Victorino, who beat Arcilla in the final of the Bohol Invitationals two weeks ago.

Arcilla and Victorino, who both saw action in the Asian Championships held in Uzbekistan last month, will spearhead the Philippine campaign in next year's SEA Games.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Edu offers $5,000 reward for information on pirates

By Nini Valera

EDU MANZANO is offering as much as $5,000 in reward money for leads that could lead the Optical Media Board to manufacturers and sellers of fake optical media.

Manzano, head of the OMB, told INQUIRER Entertainment last week that the anti-piracy agency had already given a $3,500 reward for information that led to a major bust.

The amounts, though substantial in these days of financial crisis, are, however, just a drop in the bucket compared with the amount of potential revenues that both the local and national governments are losing to pirates.

Manzano, who reportedly earns P120,000 a month as OMB head but who claims to pay for his own gasoline, cell phone bills, airplane tickets and meals, said the reward money comes from stakeholders—owners of products and brands or labels—and record and movie producers.

"We have a kitty, and we source funds from our limited resources and from contributions from the producers (whose products are pirated)," the actor and TV host said.

Last Tuesday, he was elated over the success of the raids conducted by the OMB with the Criminal and Investigation Group transnational division on four warehouses suspected to be manufacturing fake optical media and one outlet selling them.

He said the raids resulted in the seizure of P100 million worth of pirated products, mostly VCDs, replicated with the use of computer burners, the biggest haul so far for the pirate raiders.

Manzano said the establishments raided were at 58 Cambridge St. and 61 Harvard St., both in Cubao, Quezon City, two warehouses in the vicinity of Tutuban Mall in Divisoria, Manila, and CD Square, a VCD outlet in Robinsons Ermita.

He identified the owners of the piracy operations as Simon Chan and Ricky Hu, suppliers of pirated computer games, music and business software in the Philippines. Both were not present during the raids, but were found to be registered owners of the establishments based on electric bills and other records of occupancy, according to Manzano.

He said investigation prior to the raid showed that Chan and Hu were the biggest suppliers of fake optical media.

The raid was conducted based on a search warrant issued by Judge Antonio Eugenio of Manila.

Manzano observed that "lately, there have been more pirated products in VCD format, which are replicated using only burners."

Most pirated goods, he added, come from Malaysia, Indonesia, China and Singapore.

Tuesday was a good day for Manzano, he told INQUIRER Entertainment.

"I enjoy my job if we're successful," he said. "Like every day, we're getting leads."

He describes himself as a field man, who goes with the law enforcers during raids, surveillance, and coordination meetings with other government agencies. The job has already brought him to Malaysia and Indonesia where he participated in surveillance operations on suspected illegal manufacturers.

But he stressed that the real heroes in the fight against piracy are the men and women of the OMB.

"They do not get hazard pay, they are placed in life-threatening situations, and I've never seen them complain," he said.

But he dismissed the dangers the job poses on his life.

"It's like crossing the street," he said. "You just have to be careful."

P120,000 MAN. That's how much he's paid as OMB chair, but he spends his own money to carry out his duties.

"THE BEST of the new generation of comics," the Oscar show producer says of Chris Rock.

Chris to rock 2005 Oscars

LOS ANGELES—Sharp-tongued comedian Chris Rock has been chosen to host the 77th annual Academy Awards, the film industry's highest honors, next February, the producer of the show said on Thursday as he reached out to a younger generation of comics.

It will be the first time that Rock, a former "Saturday Night Live" cast member, will host the show watched by millions around the world. He will succeed veteran Oscar emcee Billy Crystal, who hosted the awards show earlier this year.

"I am a huge fan of Chris Rock," Oscar producer Gil Gates said in a statement. "He always makes me laugh and he always has something interesting to say. Chris represents the best of the new generation of comics."

Rock, 39, known for his often-provocative

CHRIS/A2-2

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Vilma Santos and 49 others in Beijing

JUICE

Jo-Ann Q. Maglipon

TRUST Mother **Lily Monteverde** to do things in a big way.

There was a time she was producing 52 movies a year just by herself, which is a dramatically huge number when you consider that, as of this month of this year, all our movie producers combined cannot come up with even 40 films.

When the industry fell into hard times, and so did Mother. And at her all-time low, she managed to produce at best only "five or seven films in a year," she says, and everyone drumbeat that she'd lost the game to Star Cinema.

Mother, the survivor, comes back with: "*Basta 'wag lang* I produce four films. In Chinese, do not say that number. It means *patay. Ay, ha-ha-ha-ha.*"

Well, Mother should know what she's talking about.

At 65, she's done it all: youth films, drama, sex, action, comedy, horror, romance, fantasy, realism. Name it, she's done it. She's made *bilaos* fly, put *kamisons* on everybody, she's made duds, she's made art, she's made friends, she's made enemies.

Beijing

Well, Mother is at it again. At a time when the sputtering movie industry will probably manage a miserable 50 films in all this year—and that, thanks only to the December film festival output—she is hard at work on another super production: "Mano Po 3."

And again, she is doing things big. Or how else to call flying 50 people to Beijing, including the wonderful **Vilma Santos** herself?

Although, as Mother demurs, it is her daughter **Roselle** who organized the trip to the last detail. "*Ako, ang papel ko, pabili-bili lang ng cheongsam* in Shanghai."

All right, but very Mother, good money would not be wasted, the schedule was punishing. Up at 6 a.m. and back at 10 p.m., every single day for three full days, under three degrees centigrade weather.

Punishing even for the film's main star, Vilma Santos, who, legend has it, totally needs five cups of coffee before she can even stir in the morning. At least that used to be the case, says show-biz veteran **Douglas Quijano**, who's traveled with the star to Amsterdam for "Ms X" and to New York for "Divorce Pinoy Style," and had no reason to expect anything different in Beijing.

Well… surprise, surprise!

The star, who turns 51 on Nov. 3, is at the hotel coffee shop at 7 and is still hyper at 10! And in between those hours, she does like everybody does.

"*Lakad nang lakad at umuupo sa kalsada 'pag walang maupuan,*" says talent manager **Arnold Vegafria**. "'*Pag gustong magpahinga sa* building, *kahit sa hagdan. 'Di nga raw niya nagagawa ito sa Maynila.*"

She bore everything well, even the walking up and down, and down and up, the Great Wall in her high heels! "It was torture," says talent manager **Manny Valera**, "but she had a dressy outfit for the pictorial, so she wore heels!"

At trip's end, nobody could recall anything about Vilma that was not about glamour or grace. She was a star, and everyone treated her like one.

And so it floored the young and quiet **Dennis Trillo** when the Star for All Seasons, noticing how he never seemed to say a word, coaxed him, in front of everybody: "*Anak, halika, yakapin mo ako…* smile *ka naman diyan.*"

Vilma Santos set the tone.

The other one to do so was Mother Lily.

The Regal Films matriarch began the group's very first day with a speech in the bus. She told everyone that she wanted them all to be one happy family, that they were all in China to work but also to have fun. And she was happy to welcome them, she said.

True to her word, she spread the welcome mat. Billeting them in five-star splendor, treating them to five-star restaurants, serving them one too many lauriats, and generally making them all feel good about being exhausted.

As a result, when everyone got back there were no stories to tell! None.

The movie veterans, unused to no incidents and too much harmony, had nothing to report! Even talent manager **Dolor Guevarra**, a great one for telling stories to the detail, had nothing to tell: "*Naku, tawa lang kami nang tawa. Si Vi, namamatay sa katatawa sa kahit ano, pati na sa* roll call *ko* every morning: Rosa Vilma Santos! Present? *Panay lang kami tawa. Ang saya namin!*"

The young ones

Things were so harmonious, even the young stars forgot they belonged to rival stations.

Walang isnaban, came back the report, between and among **Angelica Panganiban**, **Carlos Aquino**, and **Patrick Garcia** (Channel 2 talents), who shopped as one, ate at one table, and gossiped as one *barkada*, with Dennis Trillo and **Angel Locsin** (Channel 7 talents). Even as **Karylle** (7) and **John Prats** (2) seem to have caught each other's eye, if Mother Lily's broad hints about them looking good together are anything to go by.

Every day of their stay, these rival stars from rival stations huddled at the back of the bus, inseparable. When it came time to fly back home, these highly valuable properties of their respective networks, were still huddled, this time at the back of the China Southern plane, inseparable to the last.

Back home, Mother Lily is feeling mighty satisfied. Asked if the money she is spending on "Mano Po 3" (Vilma's fee alone is said to be anywhere between P5-6 million; the Beijing trip would've run into the millions) is worth it, the businesswoman says without hesitation: "All worth it."

She adds, "I don't mind spending, *basta masaya ako. 'Yong pamilya kami*, joint effort *kami. Lahat mabait! Si Ate* Vi, she is so gracious. She smiles when you talk to her, she says thank you. Gracious *talaga. Magandang tao.* She does not give tension. She is not *pa*-Star for all Seasons. She even pull her *maleta* herself! In China and in Manila, she pull her *maleta*."

And note, says the veterans in the group, Vilma had only one suitcase! And this carried her costumes as well!

Meantime, Arnold Vegafria is waxing proud. He says the Chinese locals always stared and hovered around the Pinoy stars. "In fairness," says a very biased Arnold, "*walang pangit sa mga artista natin! Panay tayo magaganda at guwapo!*"

VILMA Santos and Mother Lily

Chris to rock...

From page A2-1

brand of humor, marks a sharp departure from the lower-key style of Crystal, 57, a longtime favorite of Oscar audiences for his deadpan delivery, smooth ad-libs and Hollywood send-ups.

In an era of heightened sensitivity to indecency on the airwaves since Janet Jackson's breast-baring Super Bowl show last February, Rock might seem a bold choice given the earthy, often profane act he has popularized.

But his selection makes sense from the standpoint of attempts by producers and the Oscar-sponsoring Academy of Television Arts and Sciences to draw greater interest from younger viewers, especially the 18- to 49-year-old age group most prized by TV advertisers, experts said.

Other recent Oscar hosts include Steve Martin, who emceed the show in 2003 and 2001, and Whoopi Goldberg in 1999 and 2002.

Rock, a native of Brooklyn, made his film debut playing a parking valet in the 1987 Eddie Murphy comedy Beverly Hills Cop II" but got his big break when he joined the "Saturday Night Live" ensemble in the early 1990s.

There, he made a name for himself lampooning black celebrities like Michael Jackson and creating such comic characters as Nat X, the militant talk show host.

A three-time Emmy winner for his comedy work on HBO, including the special "Bring the Pain," Rock is currently shooting the feature film "The Longest Yard" with fellow "SNL" alumnus Adam Sandler.

His other film credits include "Head of State," "Bad Company" and "Nurse Betty."

He hosted the MTV Video Music Awards last year.

The 77th Academy Awards show will be broadcast live on Feb. 27 on ABC from the Kodak Theater in Hollywood. ABC is a unit of The Walt Disney Co.

Reuters

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ABS-CBN	Seasons Of Love		The Buzz			Rated K			Wansapanataym			Ang Tanging Ina		Sunday Family Cinema				The Weekend News	
NBN	Value Vision		2004 NBC Game Of The Week				Paco Park Presents		Go For Gold					The Working President	Unlimited Diving	Out Of Town			
ABC	Ringside		PBA										Viva Cine Idols				ABC Onstage		
GMA	Love To Love			S-Files			Mel & Joey			All Star K			Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office			Flash Report	
RPN	Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Kids TV	Road Trip	To Be Announced		Headlines Exposed		Ripley's Believe It or Not		Just For Laughs		Latin Grammy Awards				The Working President	A Second Look	
IBC	Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Japan Video Topic		Home Shopping Network		D.E.N.R.		Pensaa		In This Corner		Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI			
Solar	WWE Smackdown				WWE Velocity		WWE Experience		WWE Bottomline		WWE Afterburn		Pride FC				Slamball		Sanctuary (2001)
Nickelodeon				Sabrina The Teenage Witch	Romeo	Fairly Odd Parents	The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron	Yakkity Yak	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	Danny Phantom	All Grown Up		Double Decker			The Ren & Stimpy Show	The Wild Thornberrys	Invader Zim
ETC	Dateline		Star Search		Meet My Folks		NBC Nightly News	What I Like About You	The O.C.		Girls Behaving Badly	Simple Life 2	For Love Or Money		Nip Tuck		Dateline		Today Weekend
Cinema One			Siaw		Siaw (4:00 PM)		Im Sorry My Love				Mano Po 2: My Home				Melencio Magat				Playgirl
Studio 23					UAAP (2:00 PM)		Nginig: The Hidden Files		The Amazing Race 6		Two & A Half Men	Survivor: Vanuatu Live	Will & Grace	F		Mutant X (10.45PM)	Mutant X (10.45PM)		Cyber Pop
AXN		Going Back			Going Back (3.30 PM)		AXN Shakedown		Maximum Exposure		Fear Factor		CSI: Miami		David Blaine Frozen In Time		World's Most Shocking Moments Caught On Tape		Maximum Exposure
Star World			The Apprentice		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	Smallville		The Simpsons	Stark Raving Mad/ Kumars At No. 42	Oprah Prime Time		The X-Files		Enterprise		Stark Raving Mad	Oprah Prime Time	
CNN	World News	World Report	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	World News	Talk Asia	CNN Presents		World News	Main Sail	Global Challenges	World Sport	World News	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	Daily Show With John S	Late Edition
National Geographic	Explorations Powered By Duracell		Samsung Best Of The Week		The Snake Wranglers	Croc Chronicles With Dr. Brady Barr	Built For The Kill		Innovation		Megastructures		Secrets Unveiled		Explorations Powered By Duracell		Samsung Best Of The Week		The Snake Wranglers
Lifestyle Network	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Food Network Special		Modern Girl's Guide	E! Entertainment Special		Wild On	Behind The Velvet Ropes		Planet Parent	Molto Mario	Fashion Trance
HBO			The Bourne Identity		The Bourne Identity (4.00 PM)		Cowboy Bebop: The Movie (6.05 PM)				Mission Impossible				Cradle 2 The Grave (10.05PM)		Cradle 2 The Grave (10.05PM)	Biker Boyz (11.45PM)	
Star Movies			Sorority Boys (3:55 PM)		Sorority Boys (3:55 PM)	The Ticket (5:15 PM)	The Flintstones (5:55 PM)		Van Wilder: Party Liaison (7.25 PM)		Van Wilder: Party Liaison (7.25.PM)		Johnny English			Barbershop	Barbershop (10:30PM)		Barb Wire (12.15AM)
Cartoon Network	New Scooby & Scrappy-Doo Show	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	Duck Dodgers	X-Men Evolution	The Powerpuff Girls	Atomic Betty	Xiaolin Showdown	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	He-Man & The Masters Of The Universe	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Power Rangers Wild Force	Samurai Jack	Time Squad	Duck Dodgers	He-Man & The Masters Of The Universe	X-Men Evolution
ESPN					Table Tennis 2004 Spinvitational Table Tennis C'ships	UEFA Champions League Magazine Shows	Spanish Football League 2004/05				Mlb Championship Series						Super Basketball League Taipei, Taiwan All Star Game		
Disney Channel	Sabrina's Secret Life	Lion Kings Timon & Pumbaa	Quack Pack	That's So Raven	Martin Mystery/Kim Possible/Dave The Barbarian/Even Stevens				That's So Raven	Legend Of The Ring Of Fire 3/The Hunchback	Legend Of The Ring Of Fire 3/The Hunchback (7:30.PM)		My Wife And Kids	Thats So Raven	Even Stevens	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney		
Cinemax			Obsessed		Obsessed (4.00 PM)	Billy Madison			U-Turn		U-Turn (7:00 PM)		The Core				Bang Bang You're Dead (11.15PM)		
Hallmark Channel	Grownups				Cleopatra				Cleopatra		Cleopatra (7:00 PM)		Napoleon			Have Mercy (10.35PM)	Have Mercy (10:35PM)		Napoleon (12:15AM)
Discovery Channel	Full Metal Challenge		Science Mysteries		Rides		Mythbusters		Hour Asia		Cathay Pacific		Discovery Sunday				Power Zone		
MTV Philippines	Non-Stop Hits		MTV Brand New	Wildboyz		MTV Jams	MTV Supahstar						World Chart Express	Pimp My Ride					Non-Stop Hits
EWTN	The Chaplet Of Divine Mercy	Council Of Faith	Children's Devotional Rotation	Faith Factory	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Bookmark	Catholic Compass		Fr. John Corapi		Sunday Mass			Life Is Worth Living	Suffering Church	Backstage	Mother Angelica Live Classics		EWTN Gallery

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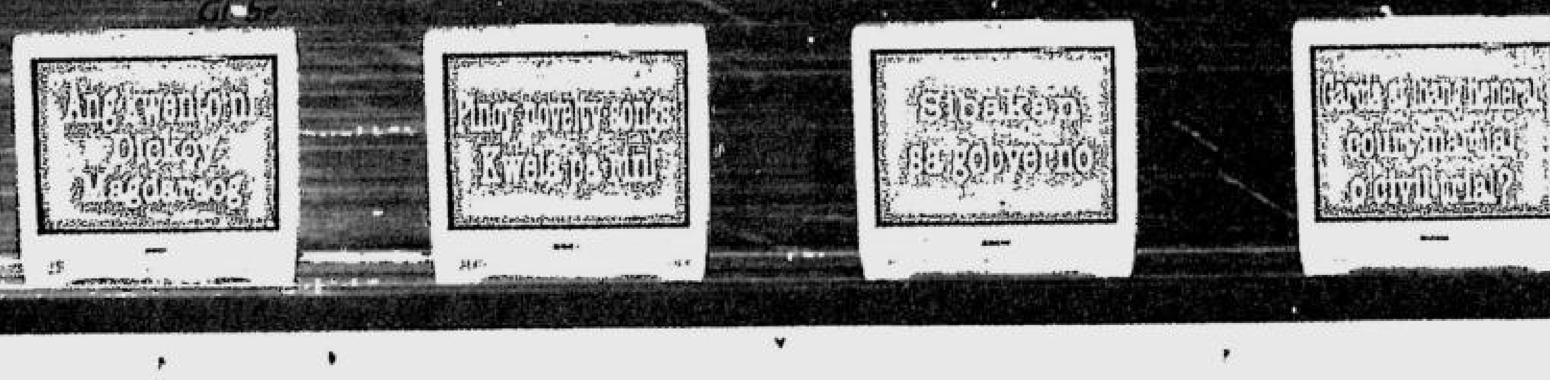

INQ TV

Ngayong Huwebes, 10:30pm!

Dito lang sa ABC

The thrill is gone

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THIS past week, we've been viewing the new "StarStruck" search on Channel 7 and "Star Circle Quest" on Channel 2.

Once more, thousands of young hopefuls are putting themselves and their future in the hands of the two talent searches' jurors.

Only a handful of them will make it to the finals, with their promise of fame and fortune in the heady world of show business. But that hasn't kept all those thousands of hopefuls from laying themselves and their dreams on the line.

The selection process is as interesting and even exciting as it was last year, but the thrill is gone because the first winners of the competitions haven't exactly distinguished themselves as performers.

So, we wonder why the judges put them through the wringer so rigorously, and when they do the same this second time around, we're no longer impressed.

Sure, Star Circle's **Sandara Park** is now a huge success, but her performances aren't really exceptional.

And, over at "StarStruck," that tilt's kiddie winners are nowhere near being as viewable as genuine child-performer finds like **Niño Muhlach** and **Aiza Seguerra**, so what's the current fuss and bother for?

It looks like all that "StarStruck" and "Star Circle Quest" really want is to discover and build up new batches of cute talents who will thrill the adolescent and teenybopper audience out there all the way to *kilig* heaven.

If so, let's not give them such a hard time, shall we? Let's look for cute, for *porma*, for a perfect set of teeth, great bodies, abs to die for, schoolgirl and schoolboy complexions, acceptable acting, singing and dancing ability, a healthy dose of ambition and competitiveness, a willingness to give up their privacy and work round the clock with little sleep —and let it go at that.

Jimmy Fallon in 'Taxi'

THE NEW chase comedy "Taxi" is being built up as a **Queen Latifah** starrer, but we're watching it because its young lead comic is **Jimmy Fallon.**

We became Fallon fans when we watched him perform zany antics on TV's "Saturday Night Live" comedy program. He was funny without having to resort to slapstick and offensive humor.

Fallon is one of a burgeoning batch of TV-film "clowns" who don't look like freaks and gargoyles. In fact, Fallon is good-looking enough to do romantic lead role, if he wanted to.

But his chosen field now is comedy, so we'll just have to wait for him to make the transition to romantic or dramatic stardom, like **Tom Hanks** before him. That *will* eventually happen, sure as shooting.

The sad thing is, when Fallon opted to launch his film career, he had to leave "SNL." Well, the stakes are bigger in the movie world, so some things have got to givé.

In "Taxi," Fallon plays a car-less cop (his lack of vehicular skills has landed him in the precinct doghouse).

Together with a speed demon of a cab driver (Queen Latifah), he's hot on the heels of a gang of beautiful Brazilian bank robbers who are on a crime spree all over New York City.

We hear that Fallon passed up around 30 movie offers before he decided to go with "Taxi." There must be something especially funny about this movie's material. If it clicks, Fallon's movie career is "made."

But, what if it doesn't fly? It'll be back to the TV salt mines for Jimmy Fallon. Well, there are worse fates . . .

Dance contest

"DON'T You Just Know It (Don't Ha Ha)" by Captain Jack is now the dance cut used in a dance contest on Channel 7's "Eat Bulaga."

The Universal Records promo offers cash prizes of P10,000 for daily winners and P5,000 consolation prize every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Groups composed of two girls and a boy can join the dance competition.

'No News from God'

PENELOPE Cruz's controversial starrer, "No News from God," is now available on DVD and VCD on Star Records video. Winner of an award from the Cinema Writers Circle in Spain, the film is about an angel who is sent down from heaven to try to save the soul of a boxer with a turbulent past.

She pretends to be the boxer's wife, and her mission appears to be succeeding—until Hell also sends one of its best agents to frustrate the good angel's best efforts.

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Who are The Incredibles?

MyGlobe gives you an exclusive backgrounder on the world's favorite super family.

Mr. Incredible

Fifteen years (and fifty pounds) after he hung his supersuit, Mr. Incredible, once the best-known, most popular Super alive, has gone underground and is living as Bob Parr, a claims adjuster at possibly the world's worst insurance company. Though Bob's preoccupation with bygone days has taken a toll on him and his family, he is surprised to learn that his greatest adventures lay ahead.

Mrs. Incredible, has adjusted to normal life quite well, and is busily focused on caring for her three children. While she occasionally uses her amazing stretching ability to meet the daily challenges of motherhood, she is careful to do so only behind the closed doors of their suburban home. She misses the old days, but doesn't dwell on them only wishes Bob would do the same.

Helen Parr, Bob's wife, formerly known as super-stretching Super

Jack-Jack is the black sheep of the family. The most unusual thing about him is how there's nothing unusual about him. Like all babies, who knows? He has "incredible" potential.

Violet

Violet Parr is, in most ways, a typical shy, insecure teenage girl stuck at the crossroads between child and woman. She, like her superhero parents, possesses special powers. It only right that hers disappear from problem especia despera

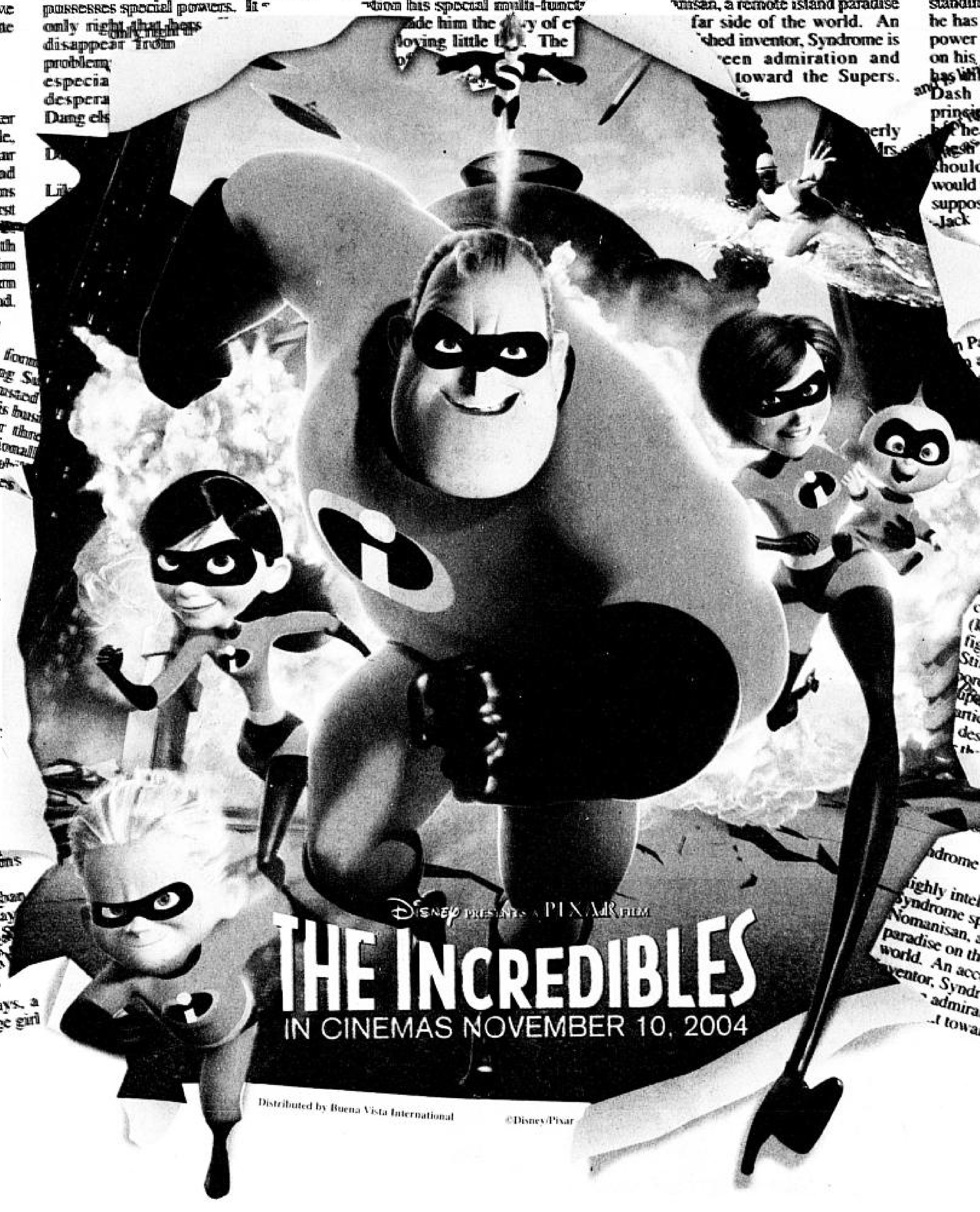
all. His style, wit and ability to create ice from moisture in the air (not to mention his special multi-function boots) made him the envy of every loving little boy. The

Highly intelligent and cunning, Syndrome spends his days on Nomanisan, a remote island paradise on the far side of the world. An accomplished inventor, Syndrome is driven by keen admiration and resentment toward the Supers.

Like most ten year old boys, Dash seems to be moving even when standing still. Full of restless energy, he has the power of super speed; a power so useful for playing pranks on his least favorite teacher that he has difficulty keeping it in check. Dash has been called into the principal's office more than once, but he's never been caught. Dash doesn't understand why his family should hide their powers---why would they have them if they weren't supposed to use them?

-Jack

Though she first gained notoriety as the world's leading superhero costume designer, Edna Mode (known as E) remains a leading figure in international fashion. Still at the top of her game, E is bored with vapid, "brainless" supermodels, finding it particularly galling as she "used to design for Gods." She longs for the return of the Supers, for one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THE INCREDIBLES
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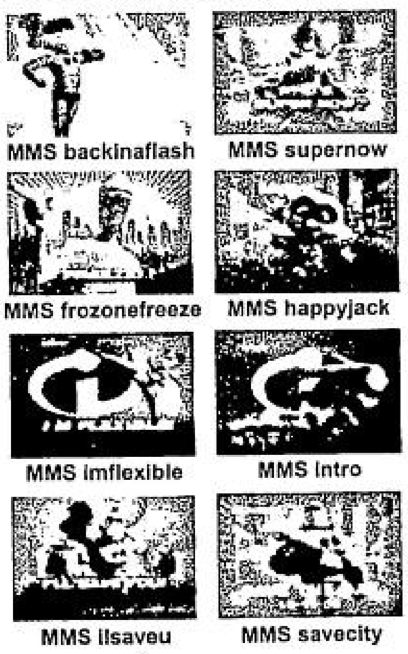
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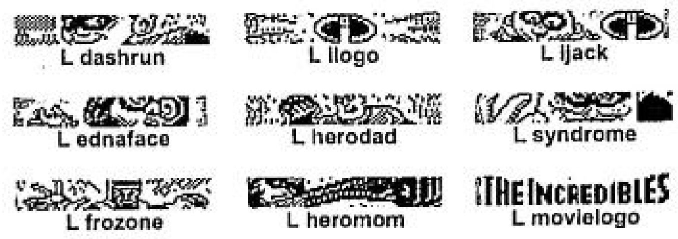
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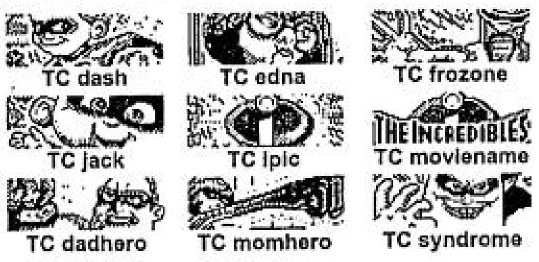
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'This is not goodbye'

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

PONTEVEDRA, Negros Occidental—"This is not goodbye," the priest said during Mass at this town's parish church before the ashes of Rio Diaz-Cojuangco were placed in their final resting place yesterday. "In our own time we will be united with her in heaven."

Fr. Jigi Caraig added, "Rio, we look forward to seeing you with outstretched arms with our Lord in the gates of heaven."

The urn bearing Rio's ashes was placed in the chapel inside the vast Cojuangco-owned Hacienda Balbina shortly before noon yesterday.

The final rite ended two days of public mourning here over the death of the former beauty queen, actress, television host and this town's former vice mayor.

Rio, 45, former vice mayor of this town, died Oct. 3 in California after six years of battling cancer.

The laying of the urn at Hacienda Balbina's chapel was strictly a family-only affair. But the public had a chance to say goodbye to Rio in the funeral Mass held at 9:30 a.m. at this town's parish church, the St. Michael the Archangel Church.

The Mass ended with the blessing of the urn by Fr. Caraig and the distribution of rosaries to those who were present in the church.

Rio's husband, Negros Occidental fourth district Rep. Carlos Cojuangco, then carried the urn bearing his wife's ashes out of the church, followed by members of the Diaz and Cojuangco families, who all proceeded to Hacienda Balbina, about 2.5 kilometers from the church.

With Cojuangco were their children—Claudia, 9, and Jaime, 7— and Ali, 21, Rio's son by singer Hadji Alejandro.

Also present were the congressman's family led by his parents Eduardo and Gretchen Cojuangco and Rio's 12 sisters and brothers, including former Miss Universe Gloria Diaz.

Cojuangco called on those present at the Mass to remember that it was God who gave Rio a joyful life.

"Let us not be sad because Rio would like us to be happy," said the young widower. "She lived a joyful life by God's grace. What would make her sad is if we don't know why she was happy."

Rio's son Ali also urged the people to "let everything she stood for remain in us" so that his mother would not have died in vain.

Father Caraig told the crowd he hoped that the way Rio lived her life would revitalize their Christian faith "so we, too, can safely enter the fold of eternity."

REP. CARLOS Cojuangco and his wife, Rio Diaz, enjoying intimate moment together.

PDI PHOTO

PIOLO Pascual for Intensity by First Quadrant

'Intense? I just do what I do'

By Carmela Teresa Almonte

"PEOPLE perceive me as an intense actor," says Piolo Pascual. "I don't know; I can't judge myself. I just do what I do. That's their description [and] it's flattering. I don't know if I'm intense but they say I am."

What is "intense," for sure, is the award-winning actor's schedule these days.

Piolo, proclaimed Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series during the last Entertainment Press Awards, has just finished the soap "Mangarap Ka" for ABS-CBN. His previous telenovelas went on to have up to three sequels, but he doesn't feel bad that this didn't happen with "Mangarap," which ran for seven months.

"*Ganyan talaga ang buhay* (That's life)," Piolo says. "You can only hope for the best. I'm grateful that ABS-CBN gave me a show that I really loved. From the time we started to the time we wrapped up, the energy stayed high."

On top of the energy, he says, the cast created such a bond that it felt like one happy family all throughout.

While waiting for possibly a new soap, the versatile performer has a movie project in pre-production. It teams him up with Bea Alonzo, and will be released early next year.

Secret story

Piolo promises that the "fun, feel-good" movie is "a first in local movies ... really unique."

Here he stops. "I cannot disclose the story; *baka masulot kami* (we may be preempted)."

The movie will be directed by "Manong" Gilbert Perez, whom Piolo worked with in last year's "Kahit Isang Saglit (Even for a Moment)." His blockbuster starrer "Milan" was shown last February.

He muses: "So *parang* once a year *lang ako gumawa ng pelikula—ganu'n kahirap,* (It seems I can make movies only once a year—that's how hard it is)."

Maybe so, but it could be because he constantly has other stuff cooking.

Piolo will also be working soon on his third album, which is being produced by an-

'INTENSE/ A3-2

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CUP's most outstanding radio commentator for 3rd straight year

DZRJ 810 AM radio commentator, program host and producer Gerry Cornejo is Most Outstanding Radio Commentator awardee of the Consumers Union of the Philippines (CUP) for the third straight year, 2002-2004.

Cornejo received his third CUP trophy at the 15th Annual National Consumer Awards (Anca) held recently at Les Pavillon ballroom.

Cornejo was cited for his balanced and well-researched commentaries on national issues. His prime-time radio program, "KKK sa RJ," which airs daily on DZRJ AM 810 kHz, Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., was also cited for its broad-based mass appeal due to its interactive, innovative, informative format and high entertainment value.

"KKK sa RJ" also promotes health through its anti-smoking advocacy as well as public safety through obeying traffic laws, road courtesy and pedestrian discipline.

Among the major sponsors and endorsers of the program are MediaKom, Kraft Foods Philippines, Glaxo Smith Kline, Department of Health, Bill Gates Foundation International, Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Alliance of the Philippines (FCAP) and the Yosi Kadiri Organization of the Philippines.

For more information, e-mail kkksarj@yahoo.com or gerrycornejo@gmail.com or text 0926-7114446).

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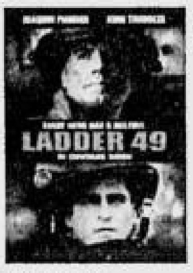
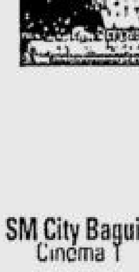


LADDER 49 MTRCB Rating: PG 13
SM City Dasmariñas
Cinema 2
SM City Baguio
Cinema 4
SM City Marilao
Cinema 4
SM City Pampanga
Cinema 1
SM City Bacoor
Cinema 3

OPEN WATER MTRCB Rating: PG 13



SM City Damariñas
Cinema 1
SM City Marilao
Cinema 2
SM City Pampanga
Cinema 1
SM City Bacoor
Cinema 2
SM City Cebu
Cinema 6
SM City Baguio
Cinema 2

SHARK TALE MTRCB Rating: G
SM City Cebu
Cinema 3
SM City Dasmariñas
Cinema 4
SM City Marilao
Cinema 2
SM City Bacoor
Cinema 4
SM City Pampanga
Cinema 2
SM City Baguio
Cinema 1
SM City Davao
Cinema 6

RESIDENT EVIL
MTRCB Rating R 13
SM City Bacoor
Cinema 7
SM CityCebu
Cinema 8
SM City Davao
Cinema 5

THREE
MTRCB Rating: R 13
SM City Bacoor
Cinema 8

BOURNE SUPREMACY
MTRCB Rating PG 13
SM City Cagayan
Cinema 1
SM City Iloilo
Cinema 5

FENG SHUI
MTRCB Rating. PG 13
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4 FENG SHUI
5 OPEN WATER

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1 RAISING HELEN
2 KRISANTA...IBA KA
3 LADDER 49
4 OPEN WATER
5 SHARK TALE

ANGELES 892-2348
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4 LADDER 49

BACOLOD 441-0458 /59
1 RESERVE
2 RAISING HELEN
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6 HAUNTED SPIRITS 2

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1 LADDER 49
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4 SECRET WINDOW
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4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
5 SHARK TALE
6 OPEN WATER

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3 SHARK TALE
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5 LADDER 49
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2 SHARK TALE
3 SAVED
4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
5 TAKAW TINGIN
6 FAHRENHEIR 9/11

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

'Intense? I just do what I do'

From page A3-1

other award-winning artist like himself—composer, arranger, and musical director Louie Ocampo. It is tentatively dubbed "Piolo Sings Louie," and is slated for a Valentine season release, around the same time as his movie with Bea.

That he is excited goes without saying: "I just got my study tape. Six remakes of Louie's songs, and hopefully four originals! And we will start recording this week."

Concert tours? He leaves for Australia last week of the month with other members of the Hunks. On Nov. 7, he has another show set in Hong Kong and, in December, four more in the United States.

'Comfortability' factor

It's hard to see how, but Piolo will also have to find time for his obligations as the latest image model of First Quadrant, which is launching its new line of men's cologne, Intensity. Two special edition scents, Passion and Spirit, have his name on the label.

If Piolo's philosophy as a product endorser is any indication, the scents would reflect his personal taste. He says the first thing he considers when mulling an ad contract is "comfortability."

The product has to suit him, he insists: "I have to believe in it, be comfortable with it. *Hindi 'yung pilit* (not forced). I can't just get the money and not care what happens next."

Culkin pleads not guilty to drug charges

OKLAHOMA CITY—"Home Alone" star Macaulay Culkin entered not guilty pleas at an Oklahoma City court last week to charges of illegally possessing marijuana and prescription medicine.

Former child star Culkin, 24, appeared with his attorney to enter pleas on two misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled dangerous substance.

The actor left after his brief appearance, remaining free on $4,000 bond posted at the time of his arrest.

Oklahoma law enforcement officials said it was unlikely Culkin would face prison time if convicted. The charges bring up to one year in prison but Oklahoma prosecutors are seeking drug treatment as part of a plea agreement that will not include prison time.

Culkin, best known for his role of the ingenious child who fends off burglars in the "Home Alone" movies, was arrested on Sept. 17 while driving through Oklahoma City en route to California from New York.

His car was pulled over for speeding and improper lane changing.

Police searched the vehicle and found him in possession of 17.3 grams (about half an ounce) of marijuana and prescription drugs, including the anti-anxiety medication Xanax, he apparently obtained without a prescription, they said.

An appearance in the case has been set for Dec. 2. *Reuters*

CULKIN

DO YOU HOLD A GRUDGE? FIND OUT ON OCTOBER 27
A SPECIAL HALLOWEEN PRESENTATION
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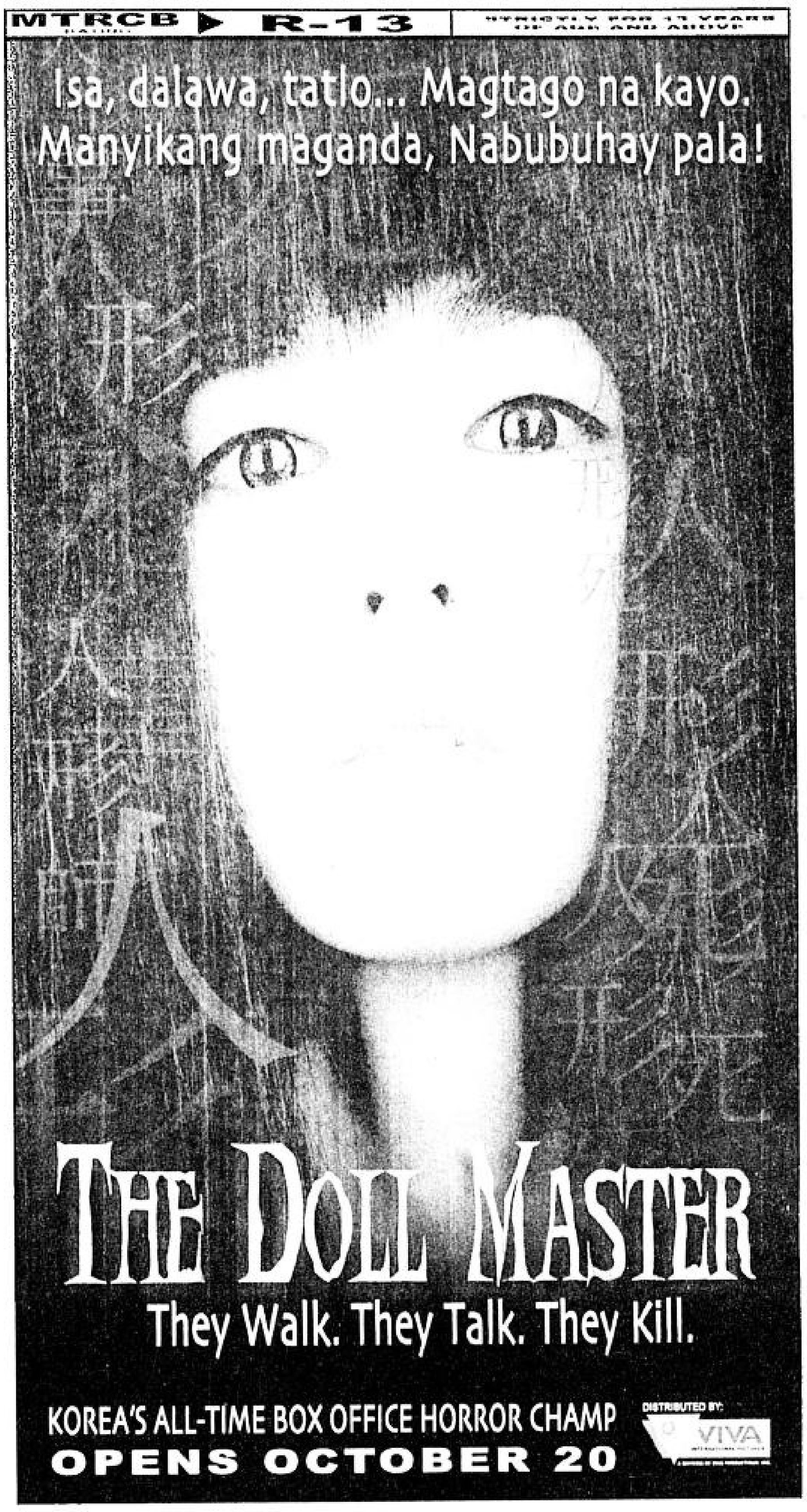
It never forgives.
It never forgets.
SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR
BILL PULLMAN
THE GRUDGE


MTRCB ▶ R-13
Isa, dalawa, tatlo... Magtago na kayo.
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THE DOLL MASTER
They Walk. They Talk. They Kill.
KOREA'S ALL-TIME BOX OFFICE HORROR CHAMP
OPENS OCTOBER 20
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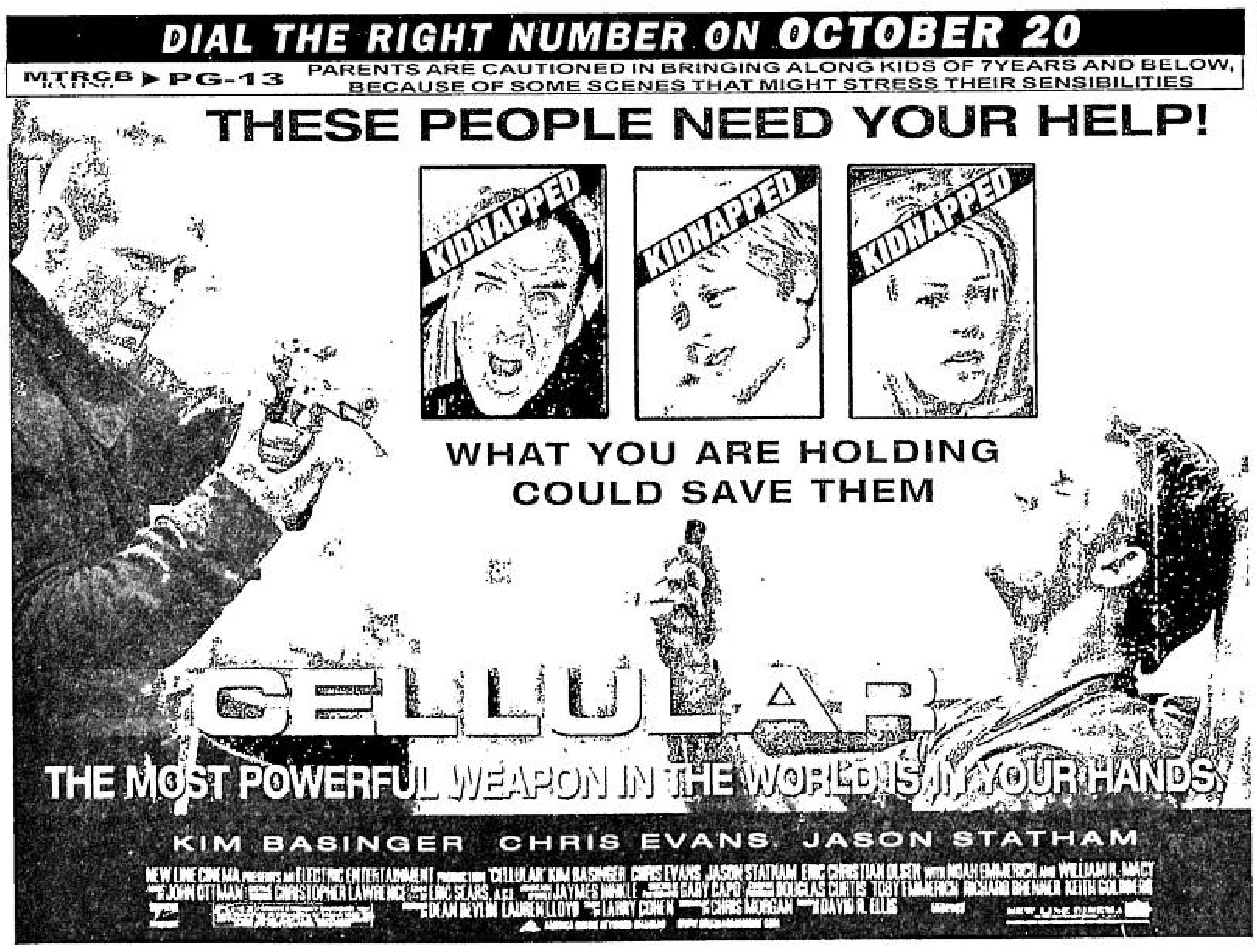
DIAL THE RIGHT NUMBER ON OCTOBER 20
MTRCB ▶ PG-13 PARENTS ARE CAUTIONED IN BRINGING ALONG KIDS OF 7YEARS AND BELOW, BECAUSE OF SOME SCENES THAT MIGHT STRESS THEIR SENSIBILITIES
THESE PEOPLE NEED YOUR HELP!
KIDNAPPED KIDNAPPED KIDNAPPED
WHAT YOU ARE HOLDING COULD SAVE THEM
CELLULAR
THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON IN THE WORLD IS IN YOUR HANDS
KIM BASINGER CHRIS EVANS JASON STATHAM

THIRD WEEK!
MTRCB ▶ R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
★★★ FLASH ★ FLASH ★ FLASH ★★★
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MILLA JOVOVICH
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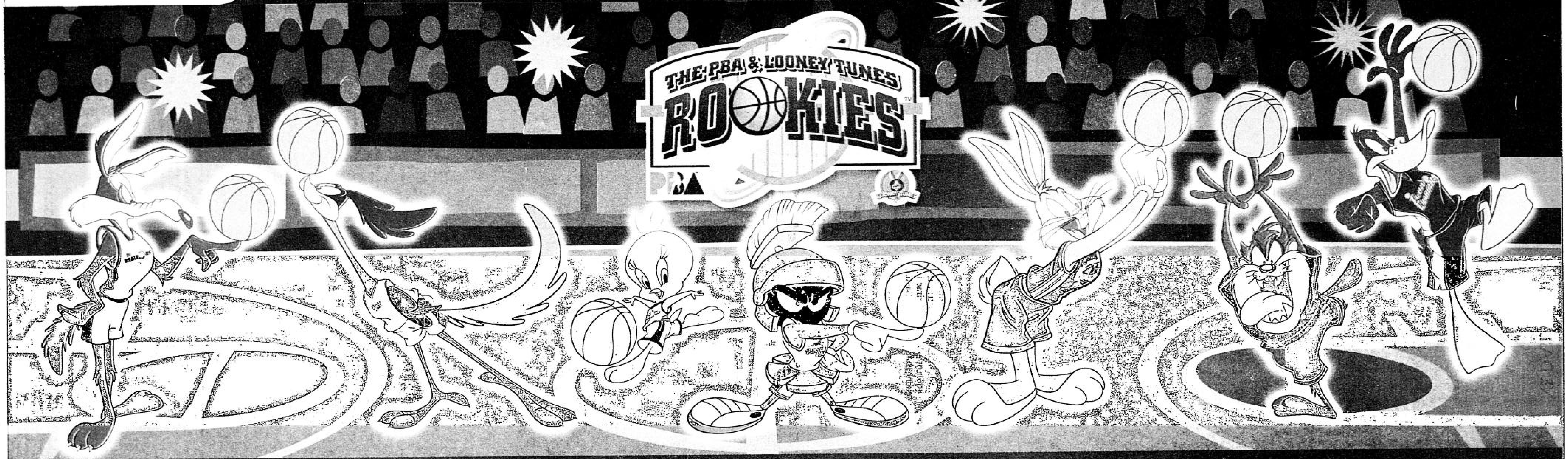
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PBA

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TEAM: Fedex Express

NAME: "High-flyin" Tweety
TEAM: Alaska Aces

NAME: "Out-of-this-world" Marvin the Martian
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TONES

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Text **POLY** <keyword> to 234

Title	*Artist*	*Keyword*
We Will Rock You	Queen	WEWILROCKU
I Love Rock And Roll	Britney Spears	ILOVEROCK
We Are The Champions	Queen	CHAMPIONS
Hey Mama	Black Eyed Peas	HEYMAMA
Chariots Of Fire	Vangelis	CHARIOTS
Shut Up	Black Eyed Peas	SHUTUP
Breaking The Habit	Linkin Park	BREAKDHABIT
Where Is The Love	Black Eyed Peas	WERISDALUV
Another One Bites The Dust	Queen	ANOTHERONE
Fighter	Christina Aguilera	FIGHTER

LOGOS

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ACESTWEETY
BARAKOTAZ
PBAMARVIN
PBADAFFY
PBAMARVIN
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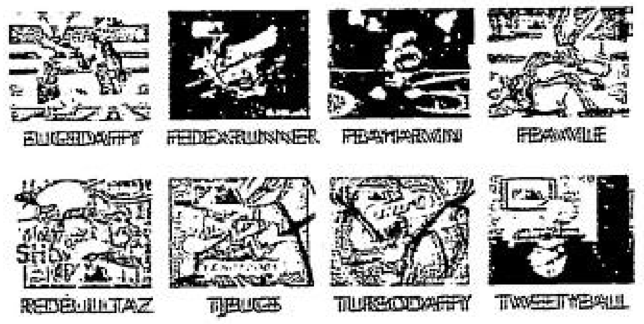
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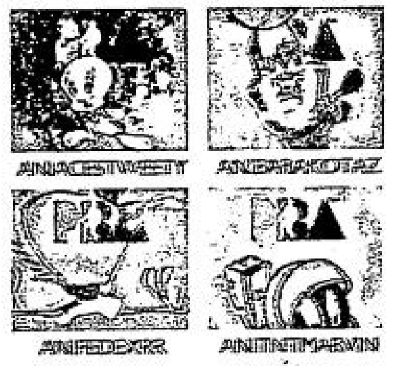
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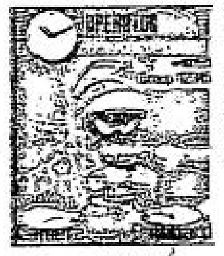

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Editor **Louie C. Camino**
Assistant Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

Viewers complain of 'too revealing' outfits of Zsa Zsa, Regine, censors say

RED-LETTER DAY. Zsa Zsa's Oct. 9 outfit on "Born Diva" drew the biggest number of complaints for the show, says the MTRCB.

FILE PHOTO

By Marinel R. Cruz

SINGERS Zsa Zsa Padilla and Regine Velasquez wear outfits that are "too revealing," and television viewers are complaining because their attention is diverted to "unnecessary things."

That is according to the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB).

The censors have warned Zsa Zsa, host of "Born Diva" on ABS-CBN, and Regine, of "Pinoy Pop Superstar" on GMA 7, for wearing "improper" outfits on TV.

A memorandum signed by MTRCB chair Marissa Laguardia told the two networks to advise Zsa Zsa and Regine to wear "appropriate attire."

The memo noted that the two host-performers have been observed to wear outfits that are "too low" and "show their cleavage," just like what they wore during the Oct. 9 episodes of the talent-search programs that they host.

Laguardia said the two hosts violated the parental guidance classification on TV when they wore clothes with "neckline that plunges down to the abdomen, showing almost the entire breasts."

"We have been getting complaints from viewers for two months now," Laguardia told INQUIRER Entertainment in a telephone interview last Friday. "But we got the most number of complaints that Saturday [Oct. 9], so we decided to release the memorandum."

Laguardia said Regine's outfits first drew protests from viewers. But Zsa Zsa's attire last Oct. 9 provoked the biggest number of complaints that particular week.

"'Born Diva,' shown on prime time, makes such kind of attire improper," Laguardia said in a letter to Cory Vidanes, ABS-CBN senior vice president for TV production. "It violates the Parental Guidance classification for television.

"Please be reminded that Ms Velasquez is a role model to many youngsters with impressionable minds," the MTRCB chief also told Jose Mari Abacan, GMA 7 program manager. "If we allow young ones to copy their idols, let us then ask these idols to show the proper example. Please remind Ms Velasquez to wear attire that is appropriate for an early evening prime-time show."

Laguardia said she has personally spoken with Vidanes, who promised to "inform" Zsa Zsa of the MTRCB memorandum.

Laguardia quoted Abacan as saying he "appreciates the MTRCB's concern for the artist."

"Zsa Zsa and Regine are beautiful in their own graceful way," Laguardia said. "They don't need to wear outfits that are too revealing. I know that outfits like these are in fashion today. But these only divert the viewers' attention to unnecessary things."

Laguardia added that wearing the "appropriate" outfit on TV would prevent any more "untoward incidents."

She was referring to the 20-day suspension imposed on Viva Hot Babe Asia Agcaoili last March after she "accidentally" exposed a breast during the Hot Babes' opening dance number on the noontime show "MTB Ang Saya Saya" on ABS-CBN.

"We've already received many complaints about them," Laguardia said of the all-female group. "The network has to make sure that this will not happen on any of their shows again."

Laguardia said Jen Rosendahl, another member of the Viva Hot Babes, accidentally exposed a breast while dancing on another "MTB" episode last December.

ROLE MODEL. Ask "idols" like Regine to "show the proper example," the censors say.

FILE PHOTO

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3. One (1) valid code sent = One (1) raffle entry. Each valid code can be sent only once per registered participant.

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RULES:

1. Promo period is June 15 to November 11, 2004.
2. **A minimum of one (1) raffle entry is required to be eligible for the ₱ 250,000 Grand Prize. A minimum of two (2) raffle entries is required to be eligible for the ₱ 500,000 Grand Prize. A mimimum of four (4) raffle entries is required for the ₱ 1,000,000 Grand Prize.**
3. The MILO Event Draws will be held on July 23, July 30, August 6, August 13, August 20, August 27, September 3, September 10, September 17, and September 24, 2004. Entries sent from 12:00 AM to 11:59 PM of the covered period will be qualified for the MILO Event draw.

MILO Event Period	Date	Period Covered
1	Jul 23	Jun 15-Jul 22
2	Jul 30	Jul 23-Jul 29
3	Aug 6	Jul 30-Aug 5
4	Aug 13	Aug 6-Aug 12
5	Aug 20	Aug 13-Aug 19
6	Aug 27	Aug 20-Aug 26
7	Sep 3	Aug 27-Sep 2
8	Sep 10	Sep 3-Sep 9
9	Sep 17	Sep 10-Sep 16
10	Sep 24	Sep 17-Sep 23

4. Per MILO Event Draw, there will be 10 winners of MILO jackets and 3 winners of Adidas products. MILO Event winners will be announced during the MILO Events to be held two days after the draw.
5. MILO Event Draw winners will still qualify for the Grand Draw.
6. Grand Draw is on November 12, 2004. All entries sent from 12:00 AM of June 15 to 11:59 PM of November 11, 2004 will qualify for the Grand Draw.
7. During the Grand Draw, a winner can win only once. If his/her name gets drawn twice, he/she will get the prize with the higher value.
8. The electronic draws will be held at Information Gateway, Inc. at Unit 1401, West Tower, Tektite Bldg., Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City in the presence of a BFAD representative.
9. All winners will be verified by the telecommunications company for valid charged/billed transactions. Only registered participants with properly billed transactions can win.
10. Winners will be informed through a call to their mobile phones and via registered mail.
11. Grand Prize winners can claim their prizes from Nestlé Philippines, Inc., Nestlé Center, 31 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center, Makati City. Apart from 2 valid IDs with photo and signature, and the active cellphone with the winning SIM card, they should present the following:

₱ 250,000 winner
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₱ 500,000 winner
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₱ 1,000,000 winner
four MILO stickers (attached to MILO labels) with valid codes texted-in (winning code included)

MILO 1K labels should be clean and fully intact. The codes should correspond to the codes sent to Information Gateway or they will be considered invalid.

12. A winner may send a representative to claim the prize provided the representative brings an authorization letter from the winner, the representative's valid ID with photo and signature, and all the requirements stated in the preceding section.
13. MILO Event Draw winners may claim their prizes at any of the 28th National MILO Marathon events. They should present the active cellphone with the winning SIM card, MILO 1K label, and the sticker with the winning code, plus two valid IDs with photo and signature. If they cannot come to a MILO Event, they may claim their prize at designated Nestlé offices (as indicated in the registered mail notification).
14. Winners need to sign an acknowledgment receipt/waiver to be provided by Nestlé before they get their prize.
15. Prizes must be claimed within 60 days after notification. Otherwise, they will be forfeited with prior BFAD approval.
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17. Promo is available nationwide.

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Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0620 series of 2004

BMG releases Artist Collection albums of superstars

BMG Records (Pilipinas) Inc. announces the release of the initial batch of the Artist Collection, single-artist compilation albums.

The Artist Collection includes 10 albums from 10 superstars, each one a portrait of the artists at their best.

The Artist Collection includes the works of Whitney Houston, Santana, Toni Braxton, Kenny G, Hall & Oates, Elvis Presley, Rick Astley, Luther Vandross, Run DMC and TLC.

Each album features approximately 14 tracks of the artist's hits and album tracks.

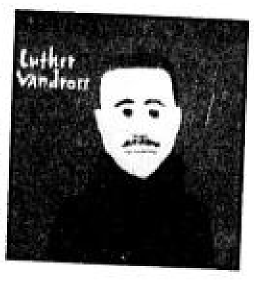
The generic paintings of the artists on the album cover were made by world-renowned artist Hanoch Piven.

The Artist Collection is part of BMG International's catalogue strategy.

Another set is already being planned for next year.

For more information, visit www.artistcollection.org.

The Artist Collection, brought to you by BMG Records (Pilipinas), is now available for only P280 each CD at your favorite record stores nationwide, such as Astro Plus, Music One, O Music, Tower Records, Radio City, Shoemart and Odyssey Records.


Luther Vandross

Side A's 'Anthology' has turned gold

THE BAND that broke your heart with such hits as "Hold On" and "So Many Questions" gives back to fans an ultimate collection of their timeless pop repertoire under Warner Music Philippines.

Side A first made waves in the local pop scene with their modest 1989 hit, "Eva Marie." That same year, Joey Generoso joined the band as vocalist. His rich, husky voice, combined with the band's penchant for lush melodies and high-energy performances, cemented Side A's position as the country's premiere live group.

Today, after close to 20 years, Side A and its members are musical heroes to other live bands such as South Border and Freestyle.

Released recently, the much-awaited double-disc "Side A Anthology" album contains 38 signature tracks.

At only P350, Side A fans and OPM lovers can't get a better deal than this super complete collection, which turned Gold (15,000 units sold) during the first few days of its release.

The "Side A Anthology" album is released by Warner Music Philippines.

Enrollment going on at QC music school

THE PHILIPPINE Music Training School (PMTS) is now accepting students in its Voice Development course, with advanced lessons on stage performance and how to become a professional recording artist.

Enrollment is on Oct. 17-24. Classes start on Oct. 25.

The school is located at 117-A S. Macaya St. in Barangay Pasong Tamo in Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

The PMTS Voice Development course lasts 30 sessions, with a 35-percent discount on tuition.

Among the products of PMTS are Lindsay Custodio of Star Records, Ynez Veneracion, Michelle Reyes, Marissa, 1987 Bulilit Tanghalan ng Kampeon's Ma. Arleen Cagas.

For details, call Lolie Ledona, PMTS manager, at 4540078.

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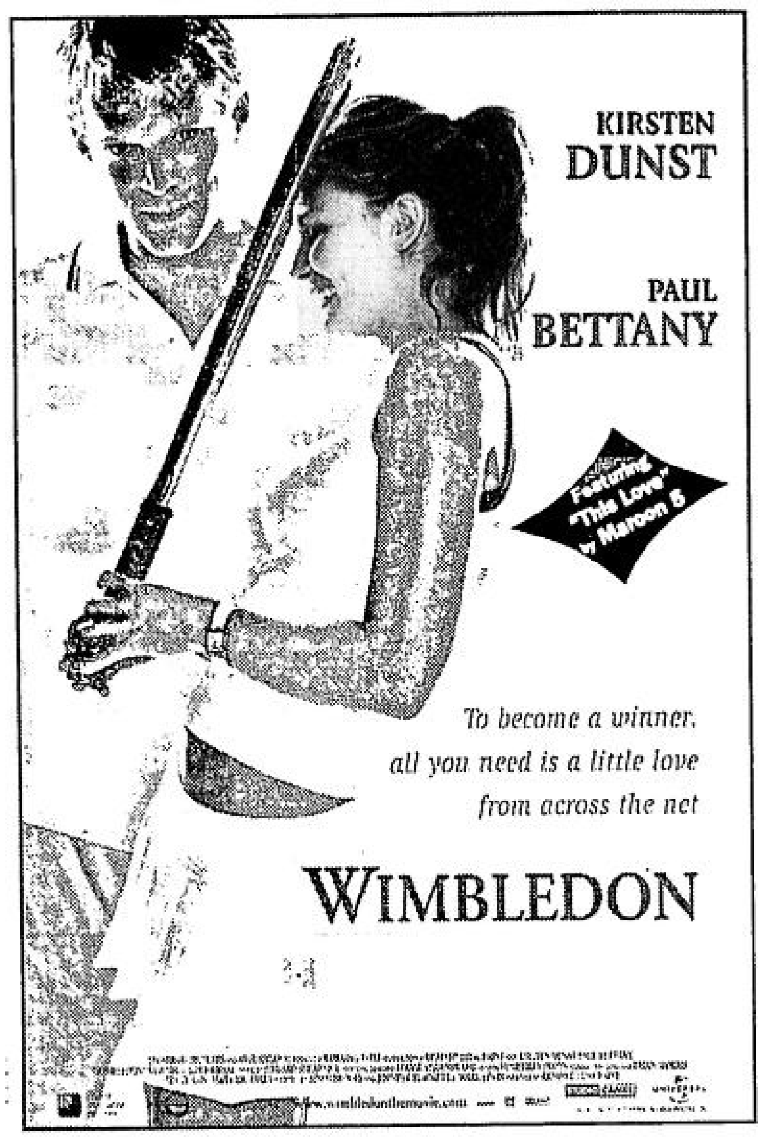
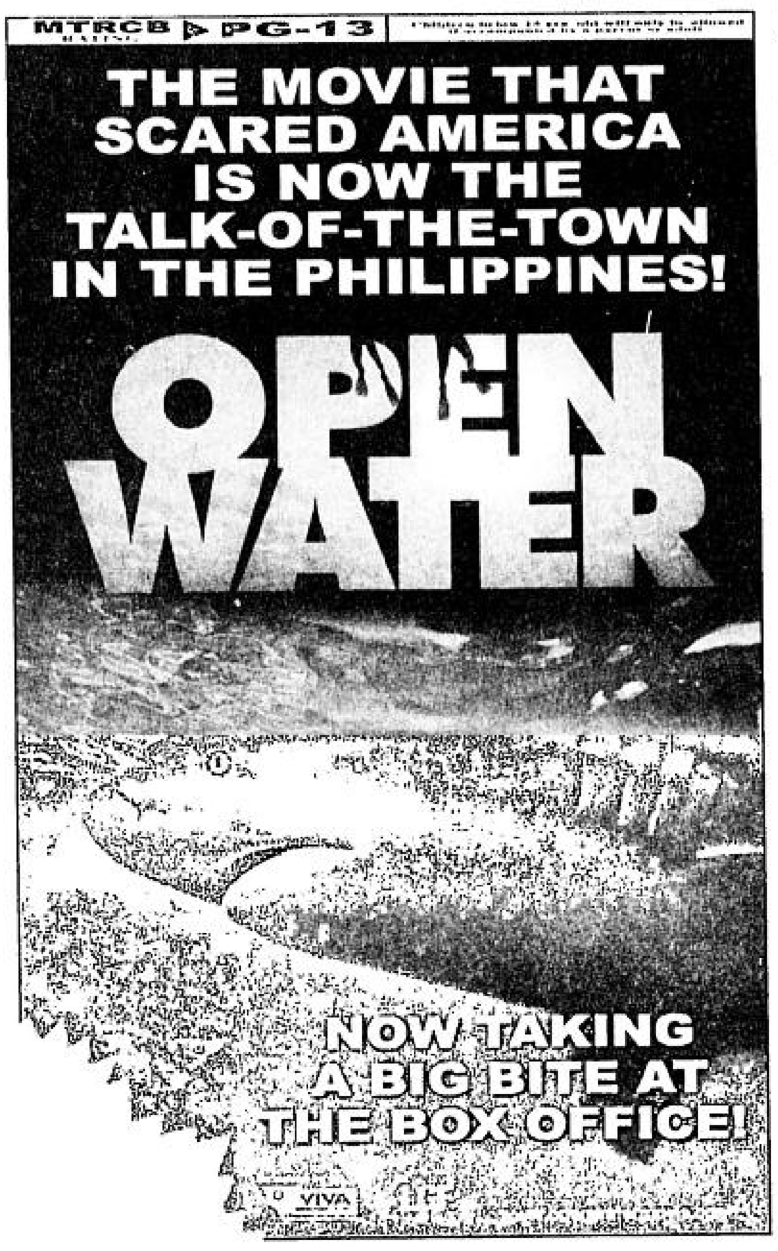

KIRSTEN DUNST
PAUL BETTANY
Featuring "This Love" by Maroon 5
To become a winner, all you need is a little love from across the net
WIMBLEDON

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13

THE MOVIE THAT SCARED AMERICA IS NOW THE TALK-OF-THE-TOWN IN THE PHILIPPINES!
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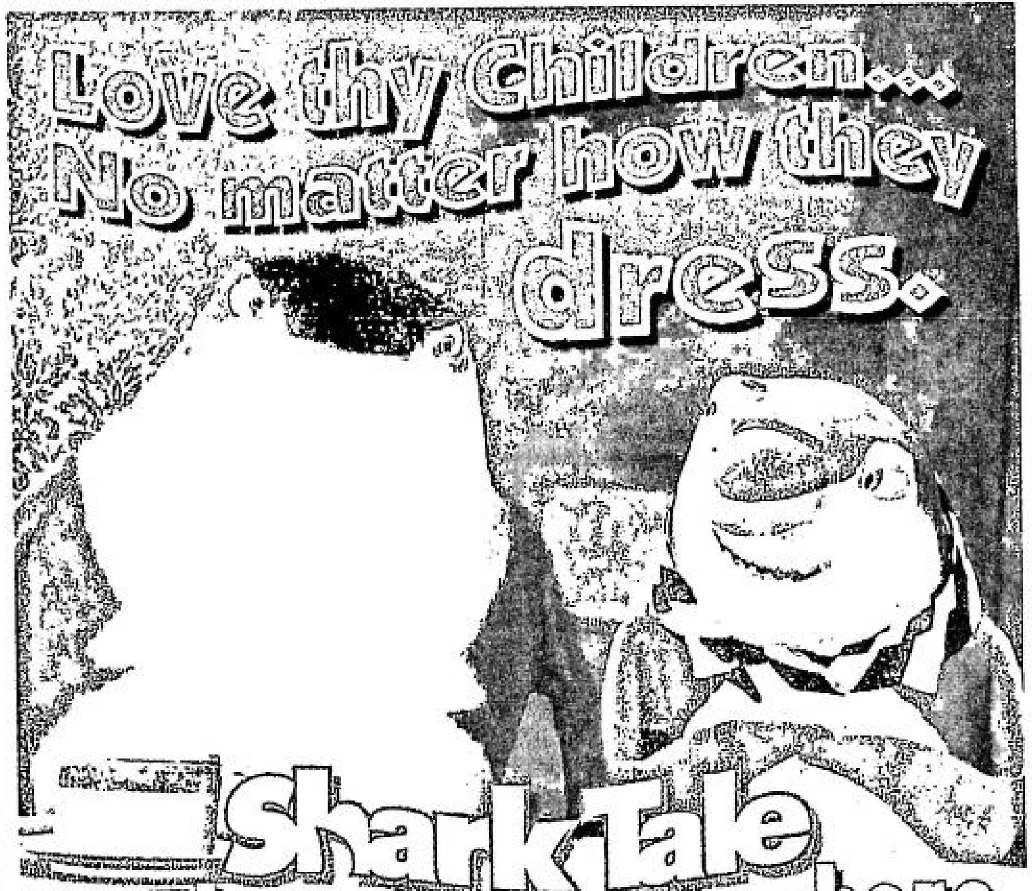
Love thy Children... No matter how they dress.
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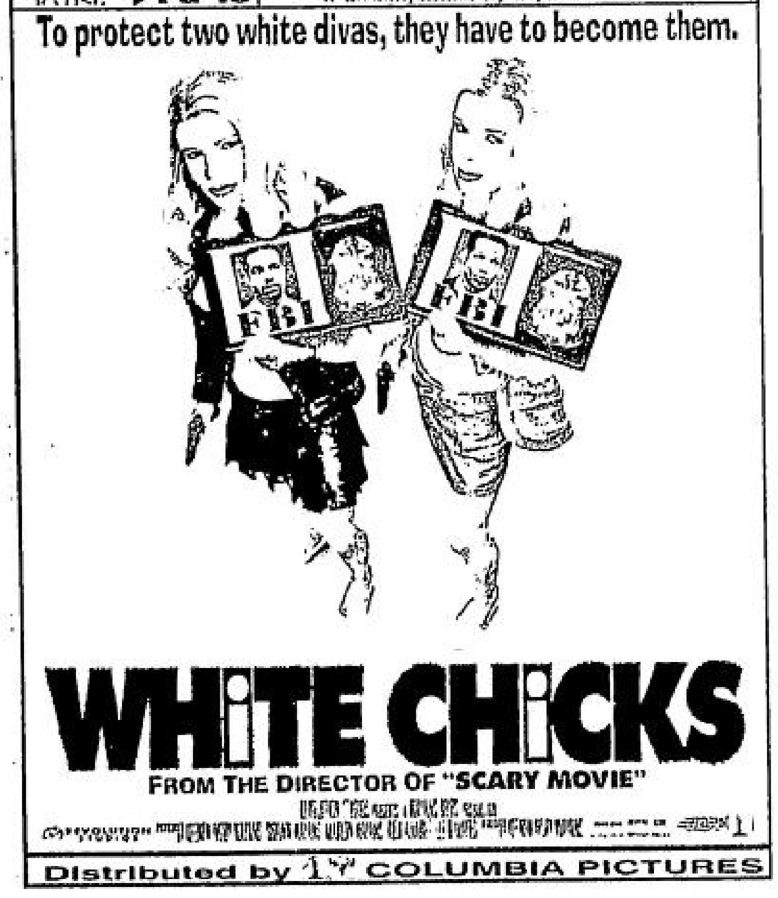
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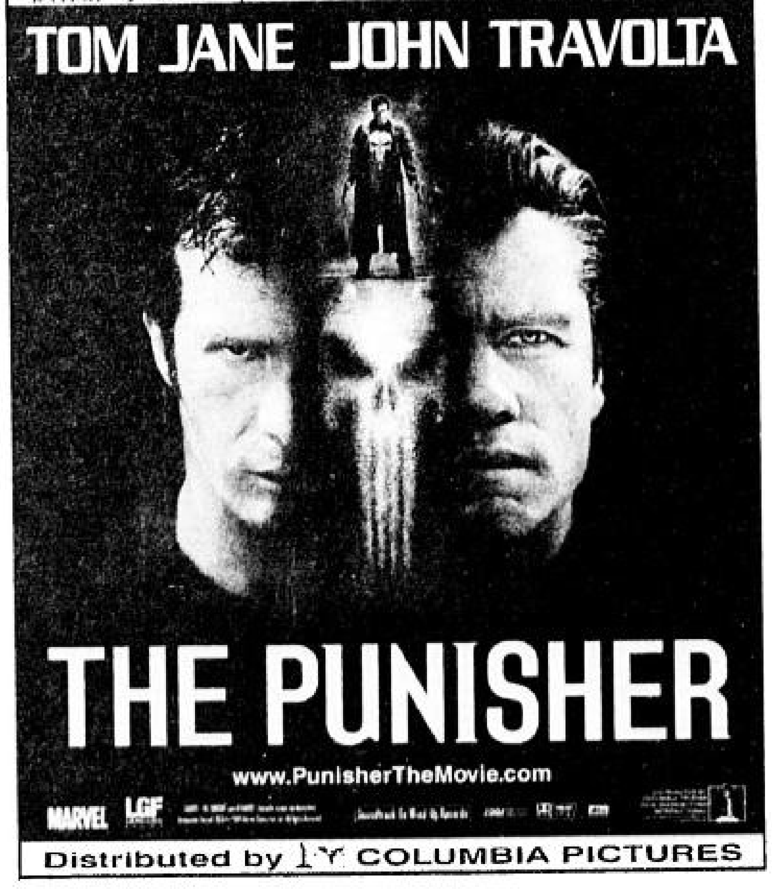
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Tatlong beses kang mamamatay sa sindak!!!
three
This time, you'll be haunted by bizarre emotions more intense than FEAR!
Distributed by Solar Entertainment Corporation

'Troy' on DVD, VCD

BRAD PITT in "Troy"

THIS October, the larger-than-life epic adventure "Troy" becomes available on DVD and VCD from Warner Home Video.

The two-disc DVD stars an A-list cast, including Academy Award-nominated Brad Pitt ("Ocean's Eleven," "Fight Club"), Eric Bana ("Hulk," "Black Hawk Down"), Orlando Bloom ("The Lord of the Rings," "Pirates of the Caribbean"), Brian Cox ("The Bourne Identity," "The Ring"), Sean Bean ("Lord of the Rings" trilogy, "The Big Empty"), Brendan Gleeson ("Cold Mountain," "Gangs of New York"), and another Academy Award nominee, Peter O'Toole ("Reindeer Games") and directed by Wolfgang Petersen ("The Perfect Storm," "Outbreak").

The DVD bonus includes a spectacular behind-the-scenes featurette, "In the Thick of the Battle," that shows the creation of Troy's epic battle sequences, and "Troy: An Effects Odyssey" that reveals the secrets of Troy's mesmerizing visual and sound effects.

"Troy" will be available at P299 on VCD and P895 on DVD.

ERIK Santos

New Erik hit

NEW PRINCE of pop Erik Santos has just released his second single, "'Di Ko Kaya," quickly following his debut album's hit carrier single, "Pagbigyang Muli," which has been No. 1 on DWRR's hit charts for 22 weeks.

"'Di Ko Kaya" is also unshakeable in the No. 2 slot of the same countdown and has been there for four weeks now.

Both songs are included in Erik's first solo album, "This is the Moment," from Star Records.

Prior to this, Erik ruled the airwaves with hits like "I Believe I Can Fly" and his winning song, This is the Moment," both included in the "Star in a Million" repackaged album.

"'Di Ko Kaya" was composed by Vehnee Saturno and arranged by Elmer Blancaflor. It speaks of how far a man would go to prove to his girl that she's his one and only love.

Also released simultaneously with "'Di Ko Kaya" is the music video of the song, directed by Connie Macatuno, who also directed the music video of "Pagbigyang Muli."

The music video was shot entirely at the Sanctuario Spa in Malate, Manila, with Dennis Magno as production designer.

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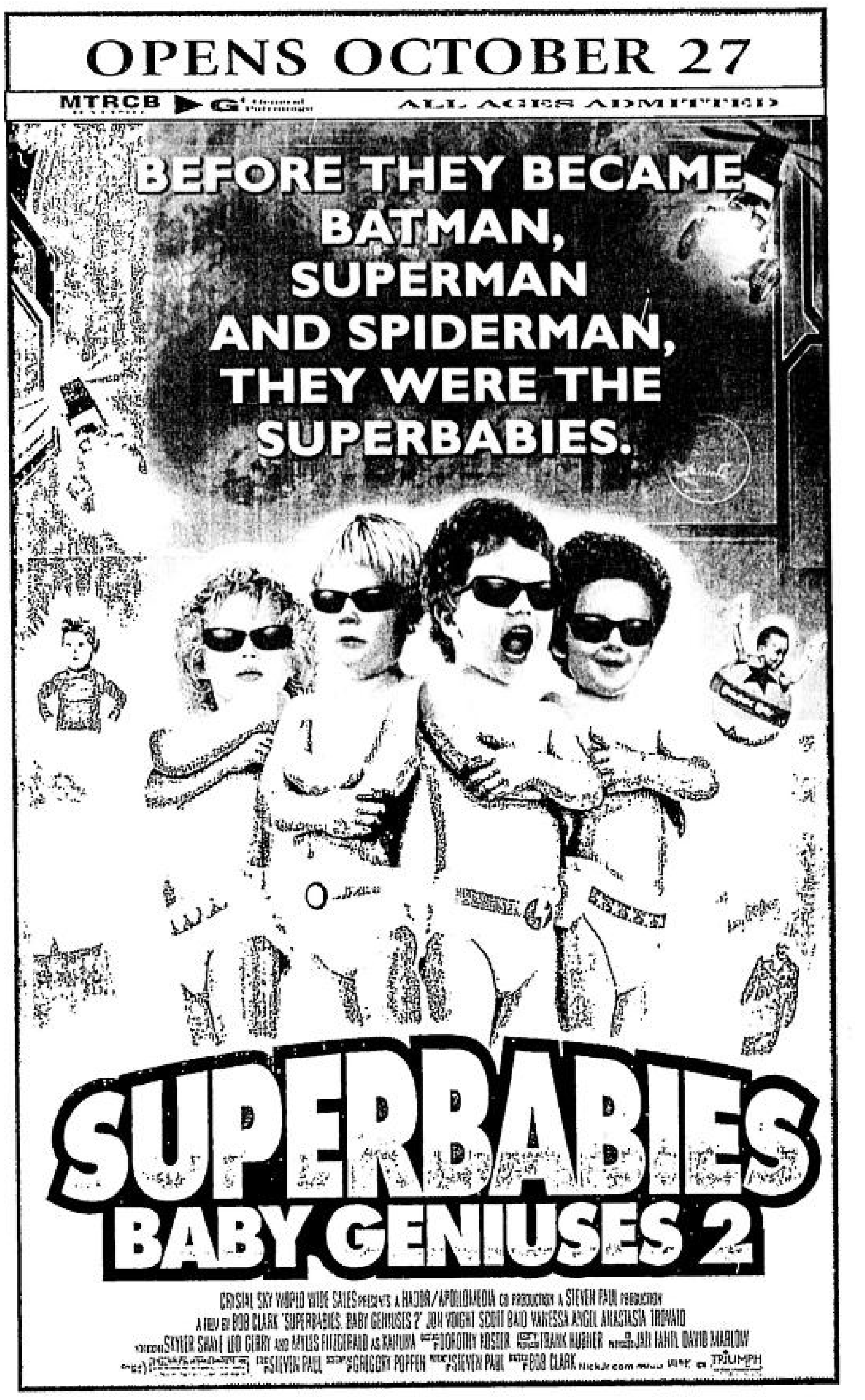
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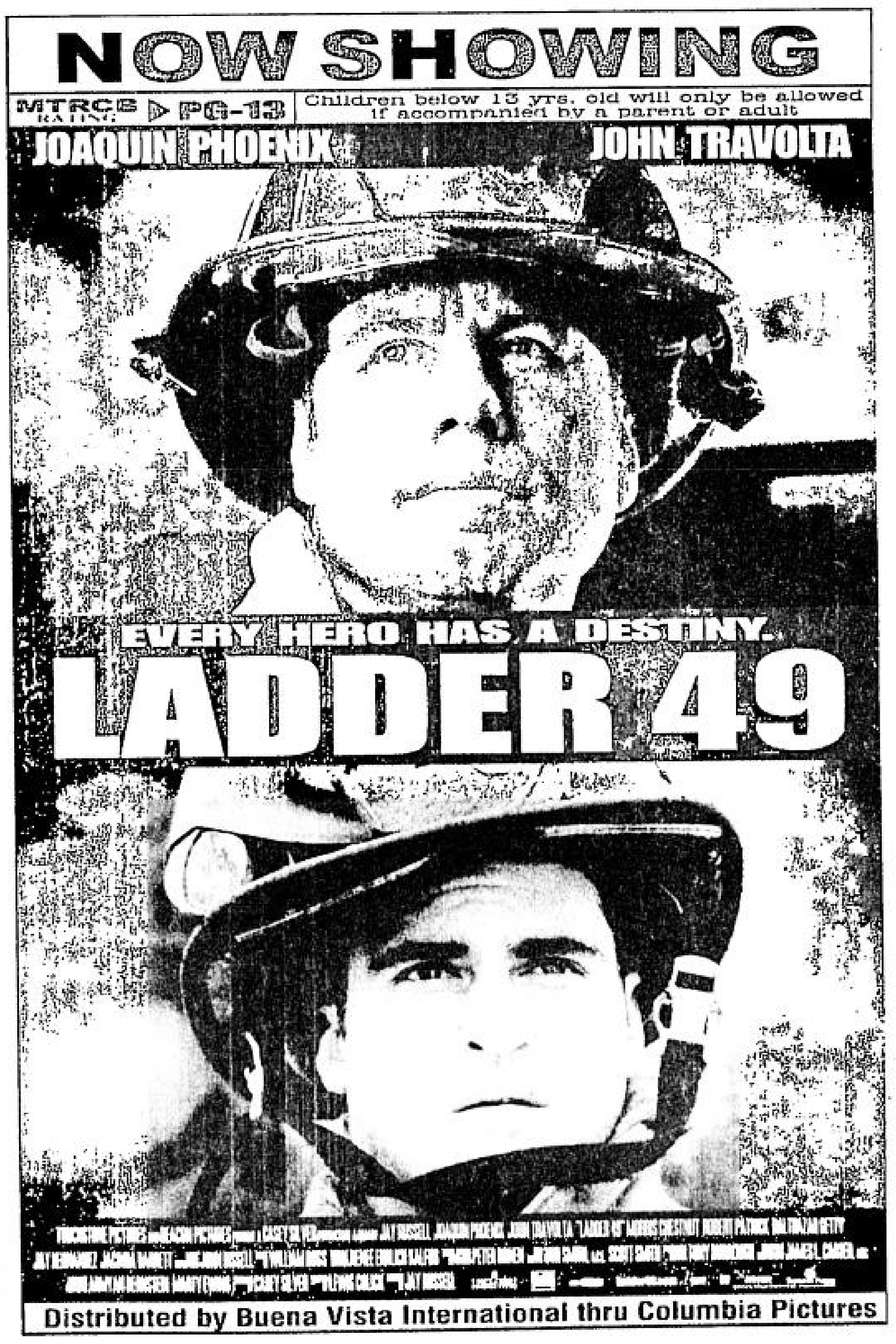
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Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

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Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources	372-5059/372-5045	Fish and fishery products
Bureau of Plant Industry	524-0779/521-7650	All items except rice, corn, sugar, coconut, tobacco and fibers
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'Think before you buy, don't sacrifice quality for price'

By Amy R. Remo

THE SPATE of fuel price increases, transport fare hikes and looming price increases in basic commodities, leaves no room for the Filipino consumer to squander his hard-earned pesos for things that are overpriced and of inferior quality.

"Think before you buy. But never, ever sacrifice quality for price," stresses Josie Alitagtag, senior trade and industry specialist, in a recent talk during the 4th Consumer Trade Fair held at SM Megamall. The fair is part of the Trade and Industry Department's celebration of the Consumer Welfare Month.

Established in 1997, the CWM aims to pay tribute to the significant role consumers play in moving industries.

Alitagtag says the best way to empower Filipino consumers is to educate them. "A mature, well-informed and vigilant consumer is the best protected consumer."

Although the DTI has launched several consumer protection projects and implemented pro-consumer policies, the consumers also have to take an active part in advocating and protecting their interests.

Alitagtag says that despite the agency's aggressive efforts to pro-

THINK/ B2

Good investment opportunities at Bonifacio Triangle

Bonifacio Triangle, the latest phase of Bonifacio Global City to be made available to the public, represents a good investment for various compelling reasons. Lot sales have been brisk and buyers cite the following benefits of the project.

Prime Location – Situated within Bonifacio Global City, the site is just minutes away from the Makati Central Business District and the Ortigas Center.
Reputable Developers – Bonifacio Triangle benefits from the wealth of experience and track record of Ayala Land, Inc. and Greenfield Development Corp., principal shareholders of FBDC.
Superior Quality - The masterplan, infrastructure and utility systems at Bonifacio Global City are of the highest standards in the country.
Pleasant Vicinity – Bonifacio Triangle is located next to prestigious international schools such as the Japanese School, British School and International School of Manila.
Greater Accessibility – The site is located along Kalayaan Avenue, allowing direct access from the business district to EDSA and C-5, Manila's main thoroughfares.
Mixed-Use Zoning – All lots provide the buyer with various development options including residential, office and retail uses.
Attractive Lot Sizes – The lots at Bonifacio Triangle range from 950 to 1,273 square meters, allowing the buyer great flexibility in design and structure. In addition, a buyer can choose to consolidate lots should he desire a bigger space.
Property Management – Bonifacio Global City is managed by Bonifacio Estates Services Corp. under the oversight of Ayala Property Management Corp. This arrangement assures locators that the City will remain well-maintained in the years to come.
Value for Money – Offering prime lots at affordable prices, Bonifacio Triangle provides good value for money.
Multiple Payment Options – Buyers may opt to pay in cash or avail of in-house financing with terms of up to 5 years.

For more information, call 818-3601 or 848 5000. Email: sales@fbglobalcity.com or go to: www.fbglobalcity.com

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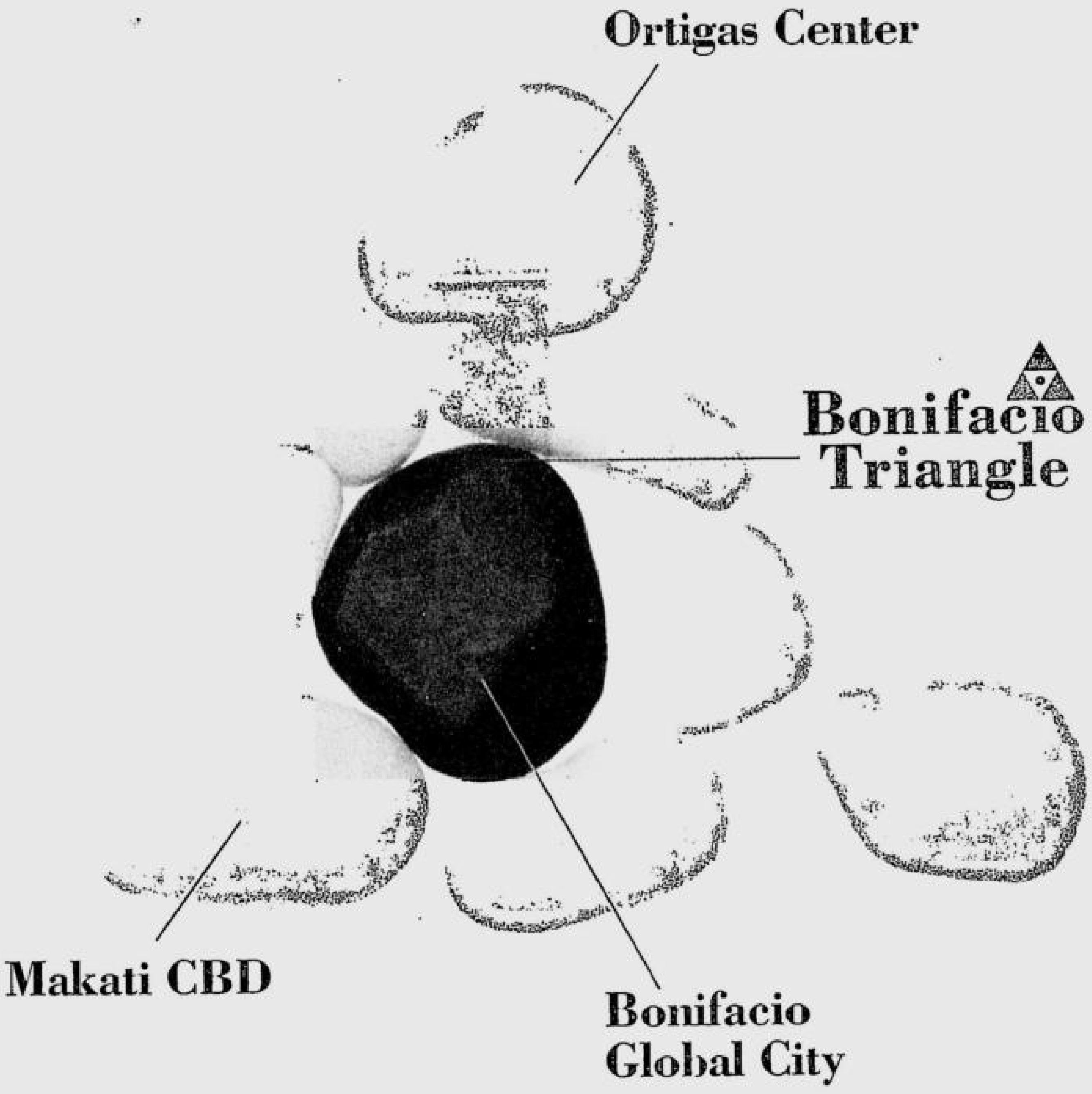

The future of business in Bonifacio Global City gets better at Bonifacio Triangle. Strategically located at the heart of three business districts, Makati, Ortigas and Bonifacio Global City, Bonifacio Triangle offers mixed-use lots ideal for commercial and residential developments. Opportunities at this site are endless given its location close to international schools and retails centers, its direct access from Kalayaan Avenue, and its proximity to C-5 and EDSA. Bonifacio Triangle is an investment as solid as a rock. Make it a cornerstone of your business.

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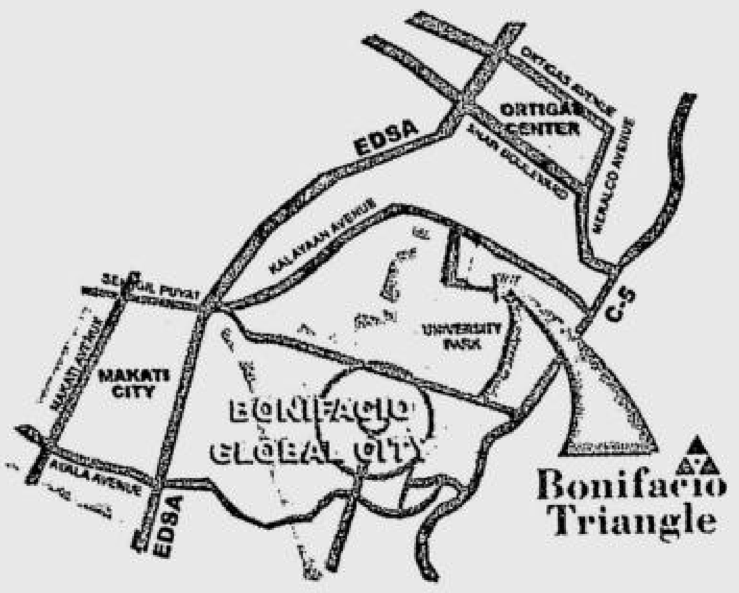

Bonifacio Triangle

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Verbal precision: Not the exclusive domain of writers

REVISED AND EXPANDED EDITION
The New York Times
MANUAL OF
Style and Usage
THE OFFICIAL STYLE GUIDE USED BY THE WRITERS AND EDITORS OF THE WORLD'S MOST AUTHORITATIVE NEWSPAPER
ALLAN M. SIEGAL and WILLIAM G. CONNOLLY

"The New York Times Manual of Style and Usage"
By Allan M. Siegal and William G. Connolly
Three Rivers Press, 1999

EXECUTIVE READ

By Dante M. Velasco
Contributor

SPEAKING of style, a writer said: "If you strive at precision, you arrive at style."

Those who struggle with achieving character in their writing will find the just-quoted statement useful. It affirms an aphorism that "style is the man."

After all, when you express yourself in writing, the way you truly think and feel, you arrive at your own "unique voice"—or style.

Poet Robert Frost reveals that the search for the right expression is pure pleasure. "All the fun's in how you say a thing," he said.

You will know a writer even at a young age if he or she is sensitive to that "turn of phrase." Or if he struggles to get the precise word or even to use a symbol—to communicate.

Those who use a language, my high school English teacher told us then, must accord it the highest respect—by using only the precise word or phrase, by mastering syntax and grammar, and by being ever sensitive to the evolution of usage.

Do you think this is only for creative writers or journalists? Having a style—arrived at precision in language—is as important in the board rooms, in executive suites, and in halls when one is giving a speech or making a presentation.

Imagine a language without rules. Then you would not know the past tense from the present tense. You could not distinguish between the cause and the effect.

"Writerly style is a set of tools and tricks, a tone of voice," say Allan M. Siegal and William Connolly, authors of the book "The New York Times Manual of Style and Usage."

This book is supposed to be the "rule book" of the reporters of the Times, and yet it might as well be an executive's handbook on word choices, rules of grammar, and on names or abbreviations.

Every major publication, including the INQUIRER, has a style book which orients reporters and editors on the style and character of that publication. Preparing a style book is a choice—since the dictionary gives us some latitude in choosing which word to use.

Will you use "behavior" or "behaviour"? Is your gender sensitivity expressed in your decision to drop "chairman" in favor of the neutral "chairperson"? Such a choice, however, could become troublesome, if one smart aleck will tell you that, if you bring it to its logical conclusion, "manhole" becomes "person-hole," "man" the organization would be "person" the organization," and so on and so forth.

The Times remains traditional, assert the authors. "This manual reflects The Times' impression of its educated and sophisticated readership—traditional but not tradition-bound."

It thus means that companies could also come up with their style book, so that every executive, manager and secretary can hew in easily into one dimension of corporate character.

For instance, the manual says, "caddie" is for golf, while "caddy" is for tea. Golfers, as you take note of your score, remember this distinction. What about "hopefully" as a word? You read this in many memos and even e-mail. What does the manual say?

The book discusses options in using the word, thus: "In the sense of let us hope, this adverb inflames passions. Widely heard in speech, it is also approved by most dictionaries and usage manuals. Grammarians equate that usage to universally accepted constructions with frankly and mercifully. But traditionalists insist that hopefully can be used only to mean in a hopeful manner."

Then the stylebook rules on usage for The Times. "Writers and editors unwilling to irritate readers would be wise to write they hope or with luck. Not hopefully, please."

Just to show you that this is not only for journalists, listen to this discussion on a choice between chairperson or chairwoman. The stylebook rules: "Do not use chairlay or chairperson."

What about chair? The stylebook says: "As a noun, it can mean an endowed professorship, or a position in an orchestra."

This firm advice is illuminating: "Do not use chair to mean chairman or chairwoman." Well, they are The Times, you say—and yet it's good to know how publications differ in their choices!

What about this? In school, we frowned on the cheater—he who manages to get a "leakage" or one who has written everything on its hidden skin. What does the stylebook say? "Use cheat, not cheater, for a person who cheats.

This 371-page book has more than 3,000 words, phrases and abbreviations that will thus enable any Times reporter to "be tidy" in his stories. In a manner of speaking, this "tidiness," this respect for the art of expression is not the exclusive domain of journalists.

You may not agree with all the choices of The Times, but you will appreciate the care, the scrupulousness, and the paper's commitment to verbal precision.

Actually, this is not just a manual. Leafing through the pages introduces you to the wit, gift of expression and breadth of experience of the authors.

It's like eavesdropping on the editors of The Times advising a young reporter how to clean up his news story. It's the next best thing to being in the newsroom of this respected newspaper worldwide. *(dantemvelasco@yahoo.com)*

Think ...

From page B1

tect the consumer, it is sometimes rendered helpless because the problem already lies with the consumers themselves.

"For one, the problem with some Filipinos is that they are too shy to ask," says Alitagtag. "Don't be ashamed to ask about a product, especially those that are potentially harmful or damaging to your body."

In the same manner, some Filipinos are too shy or lazy to report a complaint. There are those who simply don't care at all. If no consumer dares to air his concerns, then no solution can be expected from the agency, explains Alitagtag.

Others, Alitagtag adds, don't bother to read labels, instructions and the fine print.

There are those, according to Alitagtag, who have the impulsive, "*sige na nga*" attitude when buying, only to realize later on that he doesn't really need the product. He can only ask himself then, "*Bakit ko nga binili 'to?*" (Why did I buy this?)

Some consumers would feel they have been unwittingly coerced in buying product because they were "ganged up" by three or four gushing sales people, who claim the product to be perfect for them.

It is for these reasons, according to Alitagtag, that they conduct seminars from time to time to inform and remind people of their rights and responsibilities as wise, conscientious consumers.

She adds that a lot of consumers seem to have forgotten that they do have rights. Others, simply take them for granted.

These consumer rights are means of protection from manufacturers who take advantage of certain "too trusting" consumers.

There are eight basic consumer rights, which include the right to:

Basic needs. One should not be denied of his right to guaranteed survival through adequate provision of food, clothing, shelter, health care, education and sanitation.

THINK/ B3

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Timex celebrates 150th year in Cebu

TIMEX employees strain to catch a glimpse of their idols.

FACES of Timex watches: Marc Nelson, Claudine Barretto, Piolo Pascual

PHOTOS BY BEIA FORMOSO

By Beia B. Formoso
Contributor

TIMEX, the American watch brand famous the world over for its price, quality and innovations in time-telling, celebrated its 150th anniversary this year at its biggest factory, the TMX Philippines plant in Mactan, Cebu.

The 24-year-old plant located in the Mactan Export Processing Zone in Lapu Lapu City covers nine hectares and employs about 3,000 Filipinos, who are responsible for the manufacture of 95 percent of all Timex watches and a number of other brands that the company supplies.

For all their hard work, the factory workers were given a treat for the celebration: a visit from local celebrities and Timex endorsers Piolo Pascual, Claudine Barretto and Marc Nelson.

The stars have been endorsers of the global brand for two years now, and a new ad campaign featuring raunchy poses and sensual images of them taken by photographer Tom Epperson is rumored to be coming out very soon.

They toured the plant and even stopped for a few lessons on watch-making from some lucky factory workers.

The employees were clearly prepared for the big day, with many of them holding up streamers and pictures of their idols. A raffle had been held beforehand for picture-taking with the stars.

Piolo sang to the delight of the crowd, which was composed mostly of females as majority of Timex's factory workers are women because their delicate hands are needed for precision.

The endorsers were presented with the new Perpetual Calendar watch, another Timex technological breakthrough.

The watch keeps track of the day/date/month and year for you, even adjusting for leap years, and will do so for seven years straight till it is time to replace the battery, which Timex will do for free.

This is a new addition to a lineup of technologies that Timex is recognized for: Indigo Night Light, Compass, Datalink Organizer (Microsoft software that allows you to store information in the watch) and BodyLink, a sport performance-monitoring system, among others.

Having been in the time-telling business for 150 years, Timex has come a long way since it began as the Waterbury Clock Co. in 1854 in Connecticut, US, when it made pocket watches.

The name was changed to Timex after World War II with the production of the first line of wristwatches for men.

Known as the all-American watch, Timex is the top brand in the United States and Canada and can be found on the wrists of US presidents as a show of patriotism.

'Think before you buy, don't sacrifice quality for price'

From page B2

Safety. Refers to one's right to be protected against the marketing of or provision of goods and services that are hazardous to health and life.

Information. Pertains to right to be protected against dishonest or misleading advertising or labeling, as well as the right to be provided with facts and information essential to making a wise choice.

Choice. Refers to right to choose products at competitive prices with an assurance of satisfactory quality.

Representation. This is the right to express consumer interests and having a voice in the making and execution of government policies through public meetings.

Redress. Pertains to one's right to be compensated for misinterpretation, shoddy goods or unsatisfactory services.

Consumer education. This is the right to acquire knowledge and skills necessary to be an informed consumer.

Healthy environment. Refers to one's right to live and work in an environment which is neither threatening nor dangerous, and which permits a life of dignity and well-being.

Alitagtag was quick to add, however, that every right is coupled with a responsibility.

For a consumer to fully enjoy his rights, he also has to fulfill certain obligations, not only for his own well-being, but also for the others.

5 Consumer responsibilities

Critical awareness. Refers to one's responsibility to be more alert and inquisitive about the price, quality and use of goods and services.

Action. Each consumer has to adopt an active stance. He has to assert and act to ensure that he gets a fair deal. If one remains a passive consumer, he will continue to be exploited.

Social concern. One also has to be always aware of the impact of his consumption on other citizens, especially the disadvantaged or powerless groups, whether in the local, national or international community. It is for this reason that hoarding and panic-buying are highly discouraged by DTI.

Environmental awareness. Refers to the responsibility to understand the environmental consequences of our consumption. One should recognize the individual and social responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect the earth for future generations.

Solidarity. It is also important that consumers organize together to develop strength and influence in order to better advocate and protect consumer interest.

Alitagtag adds that an intelligent consumer makes a wise choice by asking himself some of these questions:

- Do I really need it or can I do without it? Can I afford it?
- Is the quality acceptable?
- Is the price fair or is there a cheaper substitute of the same quality?
- Does the label give all the information I need?
- Does it have nutritional value? How will it affect my health?

To further advocate consumer interests, DTI has established ConsumerNET to increase the awareness of consumers that there are agencies, other than the DTI, who can more aptly address particular complaints.

ConsumerNET forms a network of 26 government agencies and 11 local government units in Metro Manila. These agencies can provide redress based on their respective mandates under the provisions of the Consumer Act. *(See table in Page B1 for list of agencies, their contact numbers and areas of responsibility).*

Established in 1996, ConsumerNET also aims to provide speedy resolution of consumer complaints and facilitate a smooth flow of consumer protection information.

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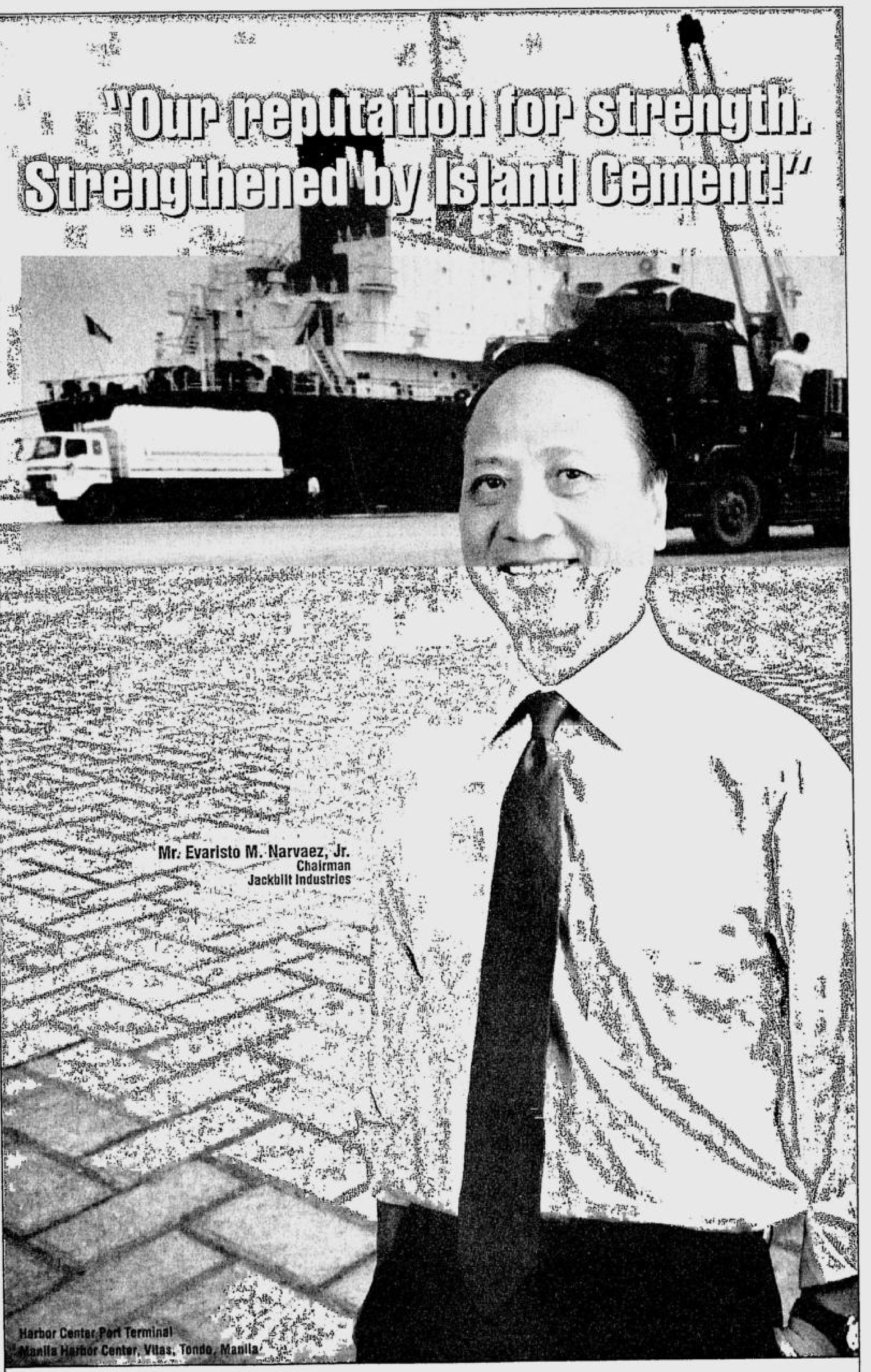

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CEMEX

Sea grass makes village folk's lives a little better

By Joyce Mejillano
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LIBON, Albay—Ten years ago families in this sleepy village depended on their meager income from farming for survival and could hardly send their children to school.

Today, most of the about 2,000 villagers send their kids to school, and were able to build decent homes made of concrete.

The sea grass, locally called *ragiwriw* or *agas* has transformed the people of Barangay Bulusan from a struggling people to village folks who have built a name in the world of handicraft here and abroad.

Weaving

Weaving the sea grass into household products is not new to the residents.

Ma. Nenita Sevilla, Bulusan Handicraft Producers Association, (Bulhapa) president, says sea grass weaving has been the source of livelihood of their parents.

But it was not properly recognized and there was no specific or stable market for it. They just made sea grass products for local buyers and in minimal volume.

Until the Manila-based Community Crafts Association of the Philippines found the local weavers. Suggesting there is a big potential market for sea grass products, the CCAP encouraged them to group themselves together into an organization so they would have an identity.

The Bulhapa was born with 31 members in 1994. It was registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1996.

Mostly women, members were taught by the CCAP how to enhance their products. The CCAP also looked for possible markets here and outside the country.

Bulhapa's products have reached different parts of the world—in America, Europe, Australia and other Asian countries through exporters in Metro Manila. Its members have buyers in the region and some parts of the country.

Their products range from bags, boxes and others, depending on the orders of their customers. The sea grass used by the organization usually comes from Libon and other places like Legazpi, Sorsogon and even Camarines Sur.

Process

Contrary to what its name implies, sea grass here grows in ricefields, although there is another kind that really thrives near the seashore.

The grass is usually harvested during wet season, when the soil is still soft and wet. The best time to harvest, according to Sevilla, is June to July, although the grass keeps on growing throughout the year.

"The grass is as stiff as wire during hot season, that's why we can't harvest it at that time because it is not suitable for weaving. The leaves are rough during that season," she says.

After harvesting, the grass is sun-dried for about two days, then sprinkled with water.

After this, the materials are now ready for the weaving process, according to the desired output.

The Department of Labor and Employment and the Department of Trade and Industry gave Bulhapa treatment facilities to prevent growth of molds.

The Bulhapa members design their products but recently, CCAP sent a designer from the US to teach them how to improve the designs.

PRODUCTS made of sea grass.

PHOTOS BY RONNIE LOREJO/PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Benefits

The industry gave them lots of benefits, according to Sevilla.

Most workers of Bulhapa earn an average daily income of P200 and they work in the comfort of their own houses.

Girlie Lunas, the treasurer of the cooperative, says the industry uplifted their lives. Her kids already know how to weave and help her when they don't have classes.

In Barangay Bulusan, almost every able member of the family knows the process of weaving already.

Bulusan is not the only barangay in Libon benefiting from the industry.

Encouraged by the success in Barangay Bulusan, CCAP also organized weavers in Barangay Del Rosario, also in Libon, which produce the same products.

Prospects

With a gross income of some P500,000 in 2003, Bulhapa members hope to cash in further on the sea grass products.

Sevilla says in preparation for the advent of voluminous orders, they are thinking of expanding their organization and will welcome members from other places.

Some of the officers of Bulhapa are being sent to other places in the country to teach the technology whenever they are invited by some agencies like the DTI and the CCAP itself.

They are also being invited to different trade fairs in the country. On Oct. 20, they will participate in the Orgullo kan Bicol Trade Fair at the SM Megamall.

The DTI Albay office, which gives regular training to the organization, says the sea grass industry is thriving well amid crisis in the handicraft market nowadays.

Cielito Julio, DTI-Albay trade and industry specialist, says they aim to give the Bulhapa direct access to foreign markets.

"Hopefully, through participation in trade fairs and exhibits, they will be able to get foreign clients so they can market directly to foreign countries," she says.

The association, Sevilla says, is getting fair support from the local government of Libon in terms of promotion. But she says they are now lobbying for the establishment of even a small drying plant where they could dry their products, especially during rainy season so they could still have better produce even on rainy days.

"We also lack warehouse where we could keep the sea grass after harvest," she says.

Providing opportunities for buyers and sellers

HUSBAND and wife Joey and Dina Castro grew up privileged in the town of Marikina—scions of shoemaking industry pioneers.

"Joey and I grew up with shoemakers. We were awed by their skills and aware of their plight as tradesmen whose earnings can barely sustain their family," said Dina. "Marikina's shoe industry has been on a downhill for years now. Especially after the market opened to cheap China-made shoes. That is why Joey and I decided to go into multi-level marketing as a venue for promoting and selling our very own line of Marikina-made shoes—crafted in the tradition of American style, European quality and Filipino functionality. Definitely far more durable than the cheap imports flooding the market."

The two set up JC Martin.

The move to revive the Marikina shoe industry was earlier started by First Quadrant in 2002. First Quadrant is a multi-level company that aims to provide a venue for Marikina shoe makers to showcase and sell their ware. Their product lines eventually expanded to include bags, apparel, cosmetics and fragrances.

Joey and Dina adopted a similar goal. As they helped the Marikina shoe industry they also got a boost from people on the lookout for income-generating activities. They made shoes and JC Martin people sold them at discounted dealer's price. Seizing a wider market reach and growth, JC Martin soon opened its doors to well-known suppliers like Fundador, Barbie, Timex and Homi Noodles.

"We also welcomed suppliers of soap and garments operating as cottage industries. We asked them for product presentations to gauge the quality of their products. And often it yielded amazing discoveries that we've added to JC Martin product lines. Our people buy by bulk at discounted prices and they retail it.

"Our company is serious on network building as well as brand building. We always emphasize to our agents that selling is as important as networking. They don't just stop at getting the P7,000 start-up package and focus on networking for which they earn P1,000 per recruit. We encourage them to focus on direct selling as well," Joey emphasizes.

JOEY and Dina Castro set up a multi- level marketing firm that taps various existing products sold by their agents at retail.

JC Martin does not frontload—overpricing in the guise of discounted bulk rate. That way they can retail, say a pack of noodles at P3 or a bar of herbal soap at P22. And that's below the suggested retail price.

The name JC Martin comes from Juan de la Cruz and the saint, Martin de Porres. The couple feels their company provides opportunities for people from all walks of life both as agent and as consumers.

JC Martin earned the Top Multilevel Marketing honors from the National Consumers Award 2004.

Tapping consumers who can't afford to pay cash

SONOMA Valley is a place in California that is best known for its wine and wineries, rich land, peaceful setting, good climate, relaxing atmosphere and spectacular vistas of the region's natural resources.

Sonoma Valley is also the name of Manels venture into direct selling. The word "Sonoma" is a play with words. It is an acronym for "Son of Manels," which is how one can describe the new wholly owned subsidiary of Manels.

Manels (combined names of husband and wife founders Manuel Sr. and Nelia Siggaoat) has made its products available through the direct selling channel since March. Its product line consists of genuine leather and man-made leather products such as shoes, bags, belts and small leather goods. Sonoma also carries apparel for adults and children. Sonoma Valley has added new product lines to its pre-holiday catalog. These are silver accessories (Trinkets and Treasures), food supplements (Biofit) (manufactured by Manels affiliate Siggart Pharmaceutical Co.) as well as bed linen and innerwear.

Manels has been in the retail business for 40 years now. Its venture into direct selling is to reach out to customers who are not mall shoppers. Noel Siggaoat, vice president of Manels, explains: "Customers have an access to us through the malls and retail stores but there is another type of consumer who does not go to malls (or if they visit malls, they more or less don't buy). They can be reached only by their associates, neighbors and by members of their community. These are usually the stay-at-home housewives or factory workers who can't really make cash purchases, maybe because they don't have the means to shell out whole cash amounts or their money is so tightly budgeted. These people usually buy from their co-workers or their neighbors—on credit, or in installment schemes such as four gives, etc. So our dealers can service this kind of consumer because they often see them, and they will be able to collect from them. "

MANNY Siggaoat, CEO, Manels Group of Companies; Nelia Villarama-Siggaoat, president

"Most of these people are really good payers, it's just that they don't have instant cash to purchase things. When they buy on credit, the payment is in installment so they can squeeze it into their budget, as it is only a portion of the whole amount. So we are targeting these people, we are making "a trip" to their place to reach out to them through the direct selling method," Noel shares.

Noel also noted that direct selling is very popular nowadays—the "in" thing considering these times of financial difficulties, and of people wanting to put up their own businesses. He remarks, "There are a lot of direct selling companies already, but there are still many being put up. It is because the number of dealers keep increasing and they are in constant search of new products and credible brands which they can bring to their customers. So I can say that the direct selling industry here in our country is growing. The reason for its growth is because there's this trend of people going into business for themselves."

Direct selling, according to Noel, offers limitless opportunities. For as low as a P5,000-10,000 investment, a dealer or a distributor can already get items from Sonoma Valley that they can sell to the other shops, in their own place or through door-to-door selling.

One advantage is that Sonoma Valley (as a direct selling company) and Manels complement each other. The success of direct selling is based on effort, pleasantness of the direct seller, the time spent, and the speed of sales. Hence, various incentives (and rebates) await the dealers.

These once and future brides know their business

By Giselle Goloy
Contributor

AT HER wedding reception, Ning Barcelo-Tadena couldn't just smile and keep her poise, she was motioning to the waiters, giving instructions, pointing at something on the ceiling ...

Ning was doing her job, even on her wedding day!

She is one of the partners in Wedding Essentials (WE) Inc., a business she and some former high school classmates at St. Scholastica's College put up two years ago. The idea was inspired by a call for help from another classmate.

"She was asking for tips in organizing a wedding," recalls Chicky Hernandez, WE president/GM. "I referred her to different suppliers and offered suggestions, just as a wedding planner would." Chicky then had five years' experience as events organizer for a sports and leisure club in Makati.

Ning and Chicky's first client was, of course, another classmate, Joanna Crisologo-Belgica, who later became a partner. When they planned Joanna's wedding two years ago, however, it had not yet occurred to them to do it as a business venture.

"It was always a thought, just for fun. Our discussions never really crossed over to serious planning. But we had the contacts and knew what to do and how to do it," says Joanna, VP for finance.

"In a way, my wedding was the dry-run," says Ning, VP for marketing. But even at that point, they still wouldn't consider the prospects. Making money was farthest from their minds, the satisfaction of having organized a friend's wedding was rewarding enough.

It was only when Chicky acquired a franchise outlet of The Swan Bake Shop (and Catering) that things started to fall into place.

"Our discussions became serious, as in registering a business/corporation name at SEC, putting up an office and investing money," says Chicky. "After many late-night meetings, we finally decided to make a go of it. The bakeshop would also be our office and showroom. It made sense that I would be managing the office/showroom and my bakeshop at the same time. After all, the bakeshop is a related business."

BRIDES-TO-BE and recent brides Cathy Pacia, Joanna Belgica, Chicky Hernandez, Ning Tadena make perfect partners in the wedding planning business.

Four other friends joined the trio, Jois Balderian, Cathy Pacia, Trina Esta-Esmile, Roslyn Libuit. Most of them have had experience in events organizing, business administration, marketing, and one even owns a printing press.

They pooled their resources to raise a modest capital, which they spent for the construction, repairs, and refurbishing of their showroom/office, located at 1075-D Pasong Tamo St. corner Kalayaan Ave., Makati City. The extra money was allocated for the overhead expenses they would incur for a whole year. They also set aside funds for marketing and licensing/documentation expenses.

Being all of the marrying age, they say, makes them perfect for the business. They even got the chance to practice their wedding planning skills on two of the partners! Three of them are now married, with the wedding of two organized by the girls' own group.

But what exactly does a wedding planner do? Spare the bride and bridegroom of the nitty-gritty of preparing for their big day. He or she contacts the suppliers, looks for a venue, and makes sure that on the day itself, everything will be picture-perfect.

"All of us take part in the coordination on the wedding day itself. We rotate tasks at the dress-up site, church, reception," says Cathy, corporate secretary. "We're definitely hands-on," adds Chicky.

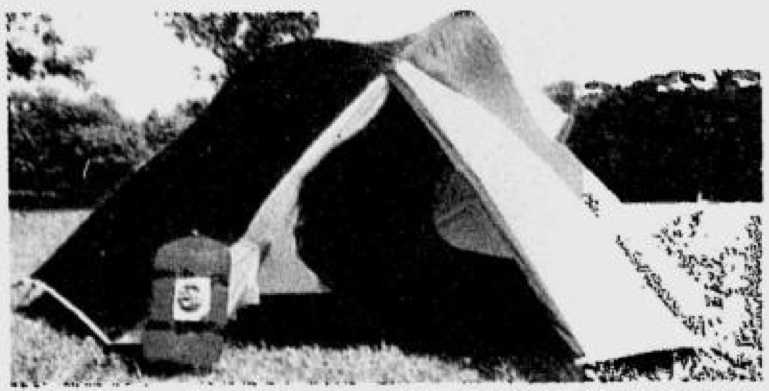
Wedding Essentials also organizes debuts, parties and special events.

But doesn't hiring event specialists entail extra expense? "We work around the clients' budget," replies Joanna.

"Weddings are now more creatively planned. Our generation would rather seek expert advice to make sure that plans are executed properly, down to the last detail," observes Chicky. "Most brides these days are busy, working women who don't have all the time to contact suppliers or check out venues suited to their wedding budget. That's why wedding coordinators have become a necessity: they know exactly how to obtain resources, while working within a budget, to create a couple's dream wedding."

Well, I'm a geologist, and I dream of a wedding on Mount Mayon.

"Get me the diameter of the crater and I'll tell you if I can fit a platform there," Chicky fires off, rising to my challenge.



APEXUS owner Terry Villas says enjoying and loving your business is the key

Engineer takes care of own need, ends up with a venture

By Madonna T. Virola
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

CITY OF CALAPAN—Terry Villas, 40, was greatly discouraged by some members of his family and friends when he, a mining engineer, went into entrepreneurship and pioneered the manufacture of compact (small) sleeping bags nationwide.

"Instead, I kept the thought that one day, they could borrow money from me," said Villas.

His major products, under brand name Apexus, consist of tents of eight to 10 designs, which are mostly technical (mountaineering) tents and some camping tents.

Apexus is supplying more than 30 stores or branches nationwide. Its products are seen during trade fairs at SM Megamall.

Apexus was first tried to be registered as Apex with the Department of Trade and Industry in 1994.

Since Apex had become a common name, Villas, a mountaineer, added the suffix us, connoting "the mountain."

Of export quality, prices of sleeping bags range from P700 to P1,400; P3,400- P6,500 for tents; and from a few pesos to P750 for accessories like backpack covers, thermal blankets and stuff sacks, and neck wallets, among other items.

Since 1993, Villas started manufacturing sleeping bags and distributed them among friends who own mountaineering shops in Manila until his products reached other stores in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Gradually, sleeping bags expanded to other products, specifically tents.

Board topnotcher

Born in Barangay Ibaba (dubbed as "Little Tondo") here, Villas finished mining engineering at the Adamson University and landed in top 10 in the board exams.

"Since childhood, I really wanted to be an engineer or a scientist," he says.

His father influenced him to pursue mining engineering. "I really like numbers," Villas claims.

His mother worked at the Bureau of Lands for 40 years and for more than 30 years, his father was into fishing.

After graduation, Villas worked in a private mining firm in Samar then for five years at the Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

He then worked for about one and a half years in the Technology and Livelihood Resource Center evaluating, preparing and financing export-oriented small and medium-scale livelihood projects.

"TLRC helps a lot in building confidence among those who want to go into business. Here you are exposed to real people involved in the business.

You learn their failures and successes," says Villas.

Inspiration

"Nobody in the family is into business. Most are teachers and government employees," says Villas.

Even his inspiration, grandfather Simplicio, over 100 years old now, was against business. A cousin of Villas told him of his grandfather's bias against the honesty of those into business.

Even as a young child, Villas admits, he was also turned off with Filipino-Chinese businessmen.

His grandfather did not finish school. "But until the latter years of his life, we saw him reading some stuff, books and the Bible."

Villas had so much respect for him.

"Has conviction, true to people, respected in the community and with incomparable wisdom, maybe better than some Ph.D. holders," he describes his grandfather.

Villas says he experienced his first job at 7 or 8 years old when he would gather coconuts and got paid per piece of per thousand pieces at the existing rate then, plus bonus of more than than the usual rate at the end of the summer season. "I learned the value of work."

At the end of summer, he got his pay of P10 or more, a big amount then for his age.

Guts

Villas pursued a Masters in Business Administration at the De la Salle University in Manila. Then he established his present business, despite heavy objections.

He did three simultaneous businesses: First, he farmed organically the four hectares in Barangay Biga here, which he borrowed from his parents. He was laughed at as he was doing retailing.

Second was Japanese food. Villas would buy buying sea urchin from fishers here, process them and sell to Manila. It didn't last for one year as supply was limited.

Third was the sleeping bags. "I started with this in 1993 because there was none suitable for mountaineers. What was available then was a bulky sleeping bag not suitable for mountaineering. When I tried to buy a mountaineering sleeping bag, I was required a reservation of one month before delivery in Manila from a very rare mountaineering shop, Villas relates.

He decided he would rather produce one. He didn't particularly target mountaineering yet, though he was a mountaineer.

Villas decided to focus on a business because he wanted to settle down with Desiree, a lass from Negros. So he borrowed P12,000 from the Government Service Insurance System.

He pooled all his resources. Even for only 10 orders, he would go to Calapan to take care of his market.

On Sept. 30, 1993, his mother died. She was supposed to support Villas' business through her retirement benefit.

This time, his "would-be" capital became the family's money. He availed of Kalakalan 20 (Orbos Law). He was granted tax exemption under Kalakalan 20, patterned after the Italian experience to encourage small entrepreneurs.

Enjoying the business

Villas, being a mountaineer, knows the nitty gritty of business and has the mountaineers for his market.

"It's important that you are happy with what you are doing. Enjoying and loving your business is the key," he says, stressing that it is his hobby.

He says learning through experience is slow and the fastest is through education. After his MBA in La Salle, his production and marketing became more efficient.

There are various problems and headaches in the business. Anticipation helps, he says.

"My purpose was to produce reasonably priced quality products. We can compete with Northface in America in terms of quality but with 30-percent less in price," Villas boasts.

He combines local materials with imported ones.

Lean season, June to August, does not worry him much because he has a steady market. Among his clients are sporting shops like Toby's, Christy sports, storeshops and specialty mountaineering shops nationwide.

His strategy is to come up with several models. "I welcome competition; it improves my business."

His friends now jokes of him as a "capitalist." "But I'm willing to share my knowledge, except trade secrets."

While his products are of export quality, Villas said he'd first saturate the local market. He believes that "Going into export is really good, especially in the profitability aspect. As far as Apexus is concerned, not yet."

'Tis better to have electric lights than candles burning in the dark

By Abigail L. Ho

ENERGY Secretary Vince Perez (right) and Mirant Philippines president Edgardo Bautista (left) signed a Memorandum of Agreement to energize an additional 500 barangays in the next two years as an extension of Project Beacon. Present at the event were (from left) Mirant Corp. CEO Marce Fuller, President Macapagal-Arroyo and Metrobank chair George Ty.

SURE, it's better to light one little candle than to stumble in the dark (yes, that's borrowed from an old song). But isn't it so much better to have electric lights on instead of candles burning, no matter how far-flung one's home is?

Residents of a barangay in Toledo, Cebu, have just been given the chance to savor the convenience of using electric light bulbs after having been used to using candles and kerosene lamps to light their homes during the dark hours of the day.

Mirant Philippines Corp., the local arm of Atlanta-based Mirant Corp. and the country's largest independent power producer, last month turned over to the government the 1,000th electrified barangay under its $20-million (over P1 billion) Barangay Electrification Assistance for Countrywide Development (Project Beacon).

Project Beacon is considered the largest corporate social responsibility program undertaken by a single private corporation in the country.

Edgardo Bautista, Mirant Philippines president and chief executive, said the provision of electricity to remote areas in the country would help ensure that the quality of life of the people there would be greatly improved.

With electricity now at their disposal, he said local economies in far-flung Project Beacon beneficiary-barangays would be better developed, therefore expanding income and livelihood opportunities for people there.

Since Project Beacon started last year, an estimated 1.5 million individuals in 33 provinces nationwide had already benefited from the rural electrification program, he said.

Electricity for millions

"More than providing electricity to our countrymen in some of the remotest barangays in the country, Project Beacon hopes to serve as a catalyst for the private sector to do more in helping the government address the needs of the country, particularly at this point of great need. It's our small way of helping address the country's fiscal problem," he said.

Under the program, Mirant installed a total of 11,963 kilometers of distribution lines, more than enough for a one-way trip from Manila to Los Angeles, employing 2,325 workers in the process.

Project Beacon was undertaken in cooperation with the Department of Energy, National Electrification Administration, various local government units and electric cooperatives.

This rural electrification project is Mirant's contribution to the DOE's "O-Ilaw" Program, a multi-sectoral approach to bring electricity to 100 percent of the population by 2006.

"I have to thank Mirant for that huge, huge investment. You have put not investment in the sense of your ordinary power project, but investment you have put in human development by making all those barangay electrification projects," President Macapagal-Arroyo said of the program.

Going for more

After having formally turned over its 1,000th energized barangay to the government last month, Mirant immediately started fulfilling another commitment to provide electricity to another 500 barangays in the next two years.

This, Bautista said, served as a continuation of Mirant's support for the government's rural electrification program.

True to the vision of Project Beacon, Mirant's additional efforts to provide electricity to more "powerless" villages all over the country has the end in mind of uplifting the quality of life of residents there.

The Project Beacon experience showed that the presence of electricity in the beneficiary-barangays enabled residents to explore more livelihood opportunities.

For example, upon energization, some barangays put up stores selling frozen foods. Due the absence of electricity before, this was impossible to do.

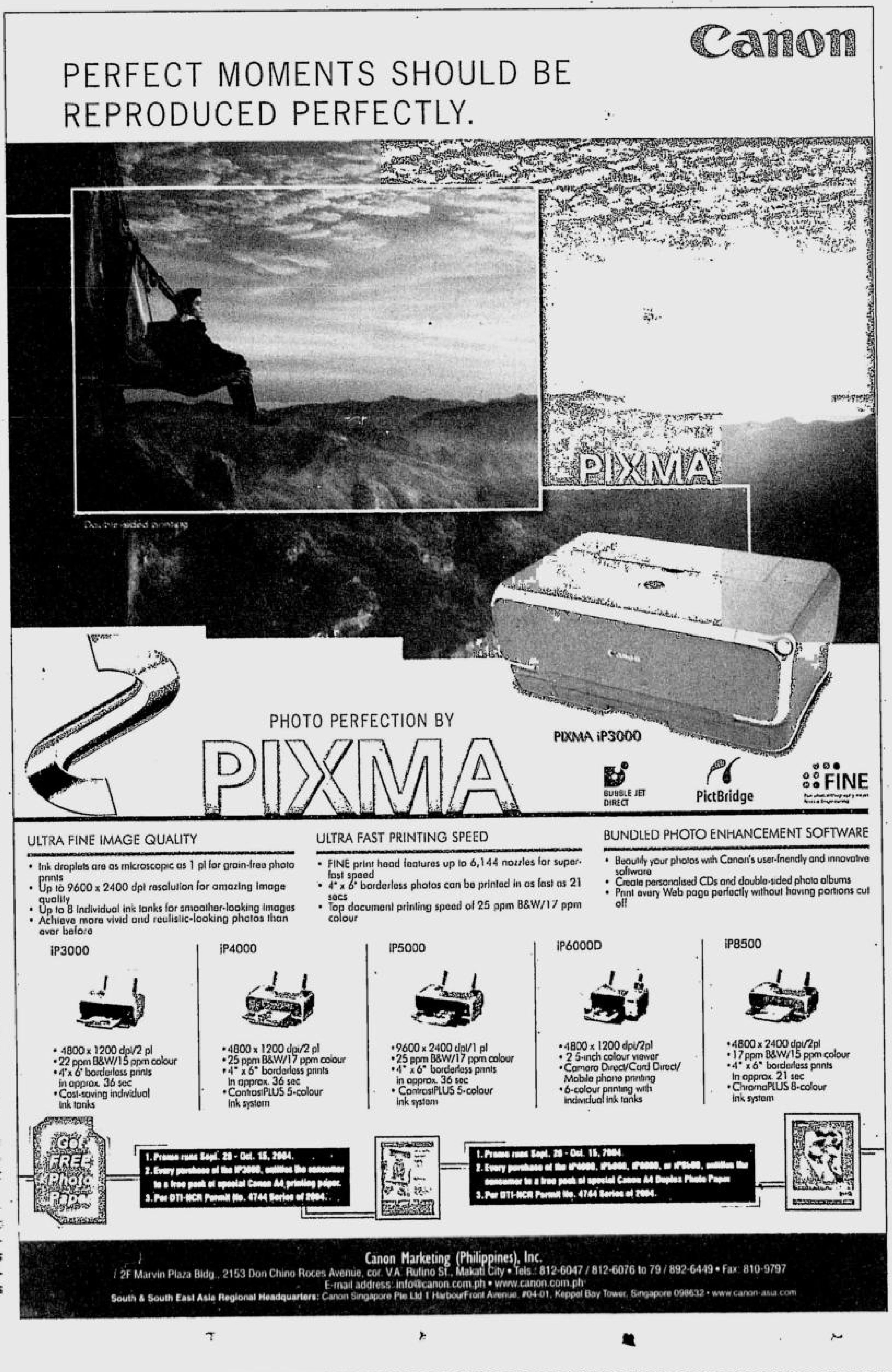
Fishermen are now also able to extend the freshness of their catch due to the availability of electric freezers. They can also now build their own boats.

Farmers, on the other hand, can turn on pumps to irrigate their lands, giving them the opportunity to grow more crops.

Education is likewise improved in the Project Beacon beneficiary-barangays as some schools there, around 600 of then in all nationwide, now have computer education as part of their curriculum.

The time spent for educational activities has also been extended as both students and teachers can now do their assignments and paperwork well into the night due to the presence of electric lights.

More than 3,000 jobs were also created after the energization of 1,000 barangays as industries sprouted in remote areas where there used to be little economic activity.



Canon

PERFECT MOMENTS SHOULD BE REPRODUCED PERFECTLY.

PIXMA

Double-sided printing

PHOTO PERFECTION BY PIXMA

PIXMA iP3000

BUBBLE JET DIRECT
PictBridge
FINE

ULTRA FINE IMAGE QUALITY
- Ink droplets are as microscopic as 1 pl for grain-free photo prints
- Up to 9600 x 2400 dpi resolution for amazing image quality
- Up to 8 individual ink tanks for smoother-looking images
- Achieve more vivid and realistic-looking photos than ever before

ULTRA FAST PRINTING SPEED
- FINE print head features up to 6,144 nozzles for super-fast speed
- 4" x 6" borderless photos can be printed in as fast as 21 secs
- Top document printing speed of 25 ppm B&W/17 ppm colour

BUNDLED PHOTO ENHANCEMENT SOFTWARE
- Beautify your photos with Canon's user-friendly and innovative software
- Create personalised CDs and double-sided photo albums
- Print every Web page perfectly without having portions cut off

iP3000
- 4800 x 1200 dpi/2 pl
- 22 ppm B&W/15 ppm colour
- 4" x 6" borderless prints in approx. 36 sec
- Cost-saving individual ink tanks

iP4000
- 4800 x 1200 dpi/2 pl
- 25 ppm B&W/17 ppm colour
- 4" x 6" borderless prints in approx. 36 sec
- ContrastPLUS 5-colour ink system

iP5000
- 9600 x 2400 dpi/1 pl
- 25 ppm B&W/17 ppm colour
- 4" x 6" borderless prints in approx. 36 sec
- ContrastPLUS 5-colour ink system

iP6000D
- 4800 x 1200 dpi/2pl
- 2.5-inch colour viewer
- Camera Direct/Card Direct/Mobile phone printing
- 6-colour printing with individual ink tanks

iP8500
- 4800 x 2400 dpi/2pl
- 17 ppm B&W/15 ppm colour
- 4" x 6" borderless prints in approx. 21 sec
- ChromaPLUS 8-colour ink system

Get FREE Photo Paper

1. Promo runs Sept. 20 - Oct. 15, 2004.
2. Every purchase of the iP3000, entitles the consumer to a free pack of special Canon A4 printing paper.
3. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4744 Series of 2004.

1. Promo runs Sept. 20 - Oct. 15, 2004.
2. Every purchase of the iP4000, iP5000, iP6000, or iP8500, entitles the consumer to a free pack of special Canon A4 Duplex Photo Paper.
3. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4744 Series of 2004.

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.
2F Marvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City • Tels.: 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 / 892-6449 • Fax: 810-9797
E-mail address: info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph
South & South East Asia Regional Headquarters: Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 • www.canon-asia.com

Science of nutritional immunology present in every E. Excel product

THE SCIENCE of nutritional immunology founded by Dr. Jau-Fei Chen, examines the significant relationship of nutrition and the immune system. It focuses on preventing diseases through proper nourishment of wholesome, natural plant foods.

According to the science of nutritional immunology, when the body is deprived of essential nutrients, the immune system is weakened and loses its ability to defend against illness. However, when functioning properly, the immune system has the ability to combat disease and even overcome the constant attacks of environmental pollutants and toxins, which we face in our daily lives.

The human immune system is like an army protecting our bodies from foreign invaders. Without the immune system, the body would not be able to defend itself against disease and illness. It consists of monocytes, which act as sentinels; antibodies; natural killer cells; cytotoxic T-cells, which act as artillery; helper and suppressor T-cells, which sound the alarm; and macrophages; which clean up the battlefield.

Unfortunately, many of us assume that if we do not exhibit visible signs of illness, we are healthy-an assumption that is often incorrect. Most diseases are present in the body long before they give any outward manifestations and are associated with a malfunctioning of the immune system. Therein lies the importance of strengthening the immune system through proper nutrition.

To obtain the necessary nutrients to keep the immune system functioning optimally, natural, wholesome plants contribute to excellent health and proper nutrition. Plant foods not only provide a complete supply of nutrients, they also promote cleansing, allowing the body to rid itself of harmful toxins. Every plant food has a specific nutritional value and must be supplemented with other plant food sources, which, when combined, perform synergistically within the body systems to achieve nutritional balance and overall health.

E. Excel International takes all the necessary steps to retain a careful balance of nutrients in every plant. The company does not simply isolate specific nutrients, instead it uses only whole plant foods with a proper balance of nutrients to create an unsurpassed line of Nutritional Immunology products. It is now one of the finest health manufacturers in the world with offices in the United States and Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong, China and many other countries in Europe. For inquiries on E. Excel products and the science of nutritional immunology, you may visit its offices at the 24th floor Rufino Pacific Tower, Ayala Avenue, Makati City or call tel. no. 811-0837 to 44.

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
MW 3 Series 24-
Drive Prog

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK PARTNERS WITH BMW PHILS

BPI Family Savings Bank partners with BMW Phils by offering select clients the rare opportunity to experience the excitement and satisfaction of driving the coveted BMW automobile series via a 24-hour test drive. Afterwards, the BPI clients are presented with generous trade-in offers and preferential rates to eventually own their own BMW through BPI's Autoloan program. Forming the partnership contract are BPI Family Savings Bank president Alfonso Salcedo Jr and BMW Phils president Dr. Joerg Breuer. Also present to witness the contract signing are BPI Family Savings Bank vice president Butch Ramos and Dickie Soriano of BCD Pinpoint.

Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology accepts enrollment for 2nd semester

ENROLLMENT for second semester is going on at The Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology. The school offers hair and beauty courses such as six-month basic cosmetology, one-month hair cutting course, one-on-one modular training on selected skills from make-up, rebonding, facials, manicure/pedicure, hairstyling, hair coloring, foot and body spa.

Specialization is also being offered like the two-year Hair Specialization course, and the One-year Cosmetology course. These two specialization courses offers academics subject in Applied Chemistry, Salon Management, internship, and seminars to enable the students to practice more and keep abreast with the current trends in international hair and beauty scene. The curriculum is perfectly studied to make sure everything is balanced and immaculate. After completion of the course, the students are allowed to take a trade test at Tesda to get the Certificate of Competency which the school's strict implementation of the Tesda requirement to pass the trade test examination so that the graduates will be recognized by the government.

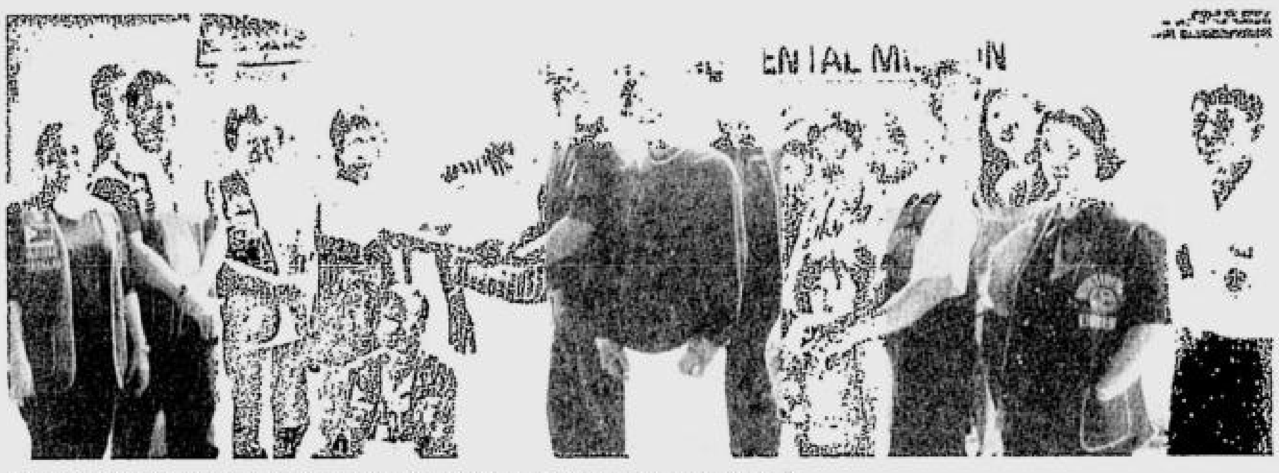
Cosmetology is not just fashion and taste. It requires a lot of study and training. The student has to master the technical basics and scientific facts of hair and beauty practice. Cosmetology is not for manpower training or out of school youths. It is a science that requires understanding both in the science and craft, the physical and chemical behavior and the laws and principles of Cosmetology.

It is the fervent desire of the school to elevate the cosmetology education into a higher level. With the modified curriculum, the Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology offers a broader education to give the students a better chance to enthusiastically explore different avenues of Cosmetology. Unlike other school offering cosmetology, the Tony Galvez School of Cosmetology do not accept under high school graduate. Entry requirement for enrollees must be a high school graduate. Also accepts scholarship to the less fortunate high school graduates, 16 to 22 years old, good moral character and has a keen interest to become a professional hair and beauty practitioner. It has international affiliations and send graduates abroad.

For inquiries and other information, please call Lourdes Co at tel. nos. 912-5930, 913-4370 or email at cgalvez117@yahoo.com or visit at tonygalvez.com.ph

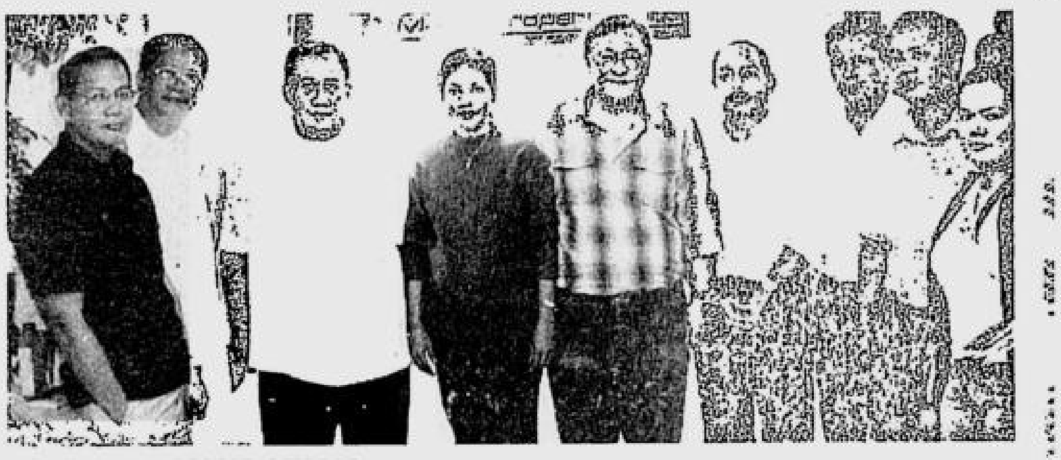
SETTING UP A MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION BUSINESS WITH MTCA

MTC Academy, the country's premier medical transcription education provider recently held the first seminar on 'How to Set Up Your Own Medical Transcription Business.' Designed for entrepreneurs and professionals (both medical and non-medical) who are looking into the vast potential of the medical transcription business, topics included the global outlook on medical transcription, common pitfalls of running a medical transcription business, its capital management, technology and HR requirements and other related topics essential in leading a successful medical transcription business. Photo shows MTCA president Eugenio Gonzalez (seated, first from left) and officers with the participants. For inquiries, please contact Evelyn or Aurora at tel. nos. 890-7372 or 890-7319 local 811 or email at admin@mtcacademy.com.



MUNTINLUPA LIONS CLUB MEDICAL DENTAL MISSION

Shown is the president of Muntinlupa Lions Club, Leonora Suva with her officers and members, awarding a certificate of appreciation to the homeowners of Katarungan Village, NBP Muntinlupa City, for their support in the medical and dental projects held at Katarungan Village last July 31.



OFFICE INAUGURATION

MacroProperties Inc, the newly formed marketing arm of New San Jose Builders, Inc recently inaugurated its office at the 6/F of President Tower, 81 Timog Avenue, Quezon City. MacroProperties is currently undertaking the marketing and sales of a number of affordable medium-rise condominium projects such as Theresa Tower in P. Tuazon, Cubao, Francesca Tower in Scout Borromeo corner EDSA, Isabel Tower in Judge Jimenez (all in Quezon City), as well as Residencias de Manila in Pandacan, Manila. Shown in photo during the inauguration are: Juny Bayon III, Theresa Tower sales director; Fr. Tony Ranada; Julius Strachan, Francesca Tower sales director; Carol B. Ros, president; Ralph de Ocampo, vice president; Pat Patero, finance and accounting manager; Orly Caridad, Residencias de Manila sales supervisor; Bong, Isabel Tower sales supervisor; and Ronette Junsay, admin and sales services manager

VENTURES 7 BAZAAR

The energetic ladies of Venture 7 are inviting everyone to their Christmas Bazaar on Oct. 24 and Dec. 5 at the Ballroom of the Intercon Hotel from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. A dozen apples will be given away for every 100th guest. Some of their beneficiaries are Makabata Foundation, Mahaveer Foundation (free artificial legs), Center for Migrant Youth and scholarships for deserving students. Shown during their planning session are: (front row) Fortune Ledesma and Celine Bautista; (2nd row) chairperson Fanny Blanco, Chit Gohu and Linda Villadelgado; (3rd row) Lita Gelano and Pilie Aquino. Those who are interested to join the Dec. 5 bazaar may call 810-3307, 372-3083.

KELLOGG'S SCHOOL TOUR

Kellogg's, one of the leading cereal brands in the country, is currently making their rounds of select schools all over Metro Manila. The on-going tour campaign is aimed to help promote healthy eating amongst young children, especially breakfast - as the most important meal of the day. The school tour is scheduled to run until October of this year. So watch out for the Kellogg's caravan because they could be visiting your child's school soon.

Clips

UCCP-EMC's 97th year

IN CELEBRATION of the 97th anniversary of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines-Ellinwood Malate Church, a thanksgiving service will be held today, at its church at 1660 A. Vasquez St., Malate, Manila, at 9:30 a.m. With the theme "Proclamation of the Word: The Church's Legacy," the message will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Oscar S. Suarez. A fellowship potluck luncheon will follow at the EWK Grounds at 11 a.m.

Innovatronix Image Model

INNOVATRONIX Inc's Image Model 2004, a search for the best male and female faces which will be featured in display materials of all Tronix and Pix outlets, is open to all persons 13 to 24 years of age and single. They will have to fill up an application form, which is available at all Tronix and Pix outlets in Manila, Pampanga and Lipa. Requirements include 2 pieces of 3/4 body shot and 1 close up shot. These must be in 4R size, laminated and taken at any Tronix and Pix imaging outlet. Deadline is today. Two pairs will be chosen: one for the Customer's Choice and the other as the Image Model winners. For inquiries, call Innovatronix at 645-6124 and 645-1598.

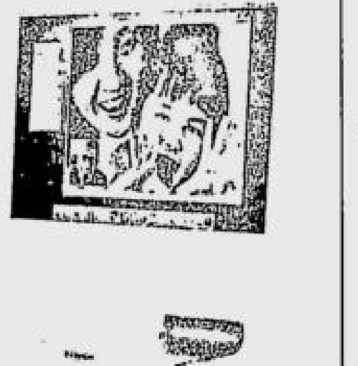
'Bazaar Sa Forbes Park'

TO USHER the holiday season, the Santuario de San Antonio Parish Center is presenting "Bazaar Sa Forbes Park" today at the premises. The one-day bazaar features products at bargain rates, as well as products from NGO's and religious organizations. For details, call 825-0804 or 825-3482. The bazaar is open to the public.

Knox UMC concert

KNOX United Methodist Church (Knox UMC) celebrates its 106th Founding Anniversary with a homecoming concert entitled "Jesus Is My Music", tonight at 7 p.m., at the Philamlife Theater. Leading the list of performers are Angie Bacho-Manalili and The Spiritual Image. They will be joined by the Knox Choir, Knox Male Voices and the Bethel-Knox Chorale. Special guests is Nanette Invetor. For tickets, call the Knox-UMC office at 734-9851/734-9914.

Product FILES



New iMac G5 from Apple

APPLE presents the new iMac G5, featuring the high-performance G5 processor and a stunning new design that integrates the entire computer right into the flat panel display. The iMac G5 packs a complete computer system into a mere two inches of depth-the world's thinnest desktop computer. The new line offers 17- or 20-inch active matrix widescreen LCDs and G5 processors running up to 1.8 GHz starting at just P93, 888.

The new iMac G5 makes the ultimate statement in design simplicity. The entire computer, including the power supply and slot-load optical drive, is built right into the display and rests on a sleek aluminum foot. All the I/O ports line up neatly along the rear right side for easy access, and with optional AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth wireless modules, there's no more cable clutter. With its elegantly thin profile, compact footprint and whisper-quiet operation (less than 25 dB), the new iMac G5 is the perfect fit for any room in the home or office. It features the breakthrough performance of the PowerPC G5 processor, as well as numerous system performance improvements designed to help consumers turbocharge their digital lifestyle applications. The 17-inch models come with either a 1.8 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a SuperDrive for burning professional-quality DVDs, or a 1.6 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a Combo drive for watching DVD movies and burning CDs. The 20-inch model has a 1.8 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a SuperDrive. With a completely redesigned system architecture, the new iMac G5 now offers up to a 600 MHz front-side bus, 400 MHz DDR memory expandable to 2GB, AGP 8X graphics and 7200 rpm Serial ATA drives up to 250GB. The new iMac G5 comes standard with high-performance NVIDIA graphics with dedicated video memory for outstanding graphics performance and realistic game play.

For product information, contact Sarah Lumang of MSI-Digiland (Phils) at 688-3708 or at slumang@msi-digiland.com.ph. MSI-Digiland is an authorized Apple distributor in the Philippines. For additional information visit Apple's PR web site at http://www.apple.com/pr/.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health

BUREAU OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Civic Drive, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City

GUIDELINES ON ADVERTISING, PROMOTION AND OTHER MARKETING MATERIALS OF BREASTMILK SUBSTITUTES, BREASTMILK SUPPLEMENT AND OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS

These guidelines are issued pursuant to Section 12 (a) (3) in relation to Section 6 (a) of Executive Order No. 51 ("National Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes, Breastmilk Supplement and other Related Products") issued on 20 October 1986 on advertising, promotion and other marketing materials of breastmilk substitutes, breastmilk supplement and other related products.

SCREENING PROCEDURES

1. FILING OF APPLICATION

The applicant for permit to advertise milk products must secure an application form from the Bureau of Food and Drugs – Inter Agency Committee Secretariat (BFAD-IAC Secretariat). The accomplished form shall be submitted to the IAC Secretariat together with the required documents and proof of payment of the filing fee of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) per material. Incomplete documents will not be accepted.

Required documents:

a. PRINT ADS	•	text and visual layout
b. AUDIO ADS	•	text or script
c. AUDIO-VISUAL/TV	•	storyboard both picture and text/script

Other requirement/s: substantiation/studies to support claim/s

All application forms shall specify the "intended/target audience" and brief description of the type of material.

The requesting party shall submit one final copy and five (5) photocopies of each material for screening.

Schedule of screening of materials shall be every 3rd Monday of the month unless the IAC decides to change the schedule.

Application and accompanying documents must be filed on or before the first Friday of each month in order to be included in the screening by the IAC for said month, otherwise it will be considered in the next scheduled screening.

2. THE INTER-AGENCY SECRETARIAT

The IAC Secretariat will check and collate the documents according to the requirements for the deliberation of the IAC attaching the IAC voting slips thereon.

3. THE IAC DELIBERATIONS

The representative/s of both company and ad agency are encouraged to attend the IAC deliberation to answer queries which may arise during the deliberation of the submitted materials.

The IAC Secretariat shall issue the consolidated results of deliberation duly signed by the Chairperson five (5) days after the screening.

4. APPROVAL OF APPLICATION

Upon the finalization of the approved advertising material/s, the applicant shall submit the final copy of the advertising material/s to the IAC Secretariat for final evaluation by the IAC.

4.1. If the final copy of the advertising material does not conform to the approved advertising material on file, the same shall be returned to the applicant within five (5) days from date of receipt thereof. The applicant shall make necessary revisions and resubmit the same to the IAC.

4.2. If the final copy conforms to the advertising materials as approved by the IAC, a Certificate of Approval shall be issued to the applicant within five (5) days after the screening.

4.2.1. Approval for printing

If the application is approved, a Certificate of Approval with the Executive Order Number shall be released by the IAC Secretariat as issued and signed by the IAC Chairperson upon submission of the final artwork by the applicant.

4.2.2. Approval for airing (TV & radio)

If the application is approved, a Certificate of Approval with the Executive Order Number shall be released by the IAC Secretariat as issued and signed by the IAC Chairperson upon submission by the applicant of the final copy of the storyboard and an off-line copy of the material in VHS or cassette tape for final review by the Chairperson.

After the issuance of the Certificate of Approval, no material variations or changes in the approved advertising materials shall be allowed in connection therewith. In case there is doubt as to the conformity of the material with the IAC approval, the same shall be returned to the IAC for final decision.

4.3. The Certificate of Approval shall authorize the applicant to publish, air, disseminate and/or release to the public the approved advertisement; *Provided*, however, that the published/released materials conforms exactly to the approved copy on file with the IAC.

No advertisement of products shall be aired, published, disseminated or released to the public without a Certificate of Approval issued by the IAC. Violations hereof shall subject the manufacturer, the advertiser and the radio/TV stations to the appropriate sanctions provided by law.

5. DISAPPROVAL OF APPLICATION

If the application is disapproved, the applicant shall be informed of the disapproval and the reasons thereof within five (5) days from the date of deliberation. Applicant shall make the necessary revisions of the disapproved materials and resubmit the same for the reconsideration of the IAC.

The following documents shall be submitted to the IAC Secretariat together with the request for reconsideration:

a. The disapproved advertisement or a faithful facsimile thereof;
b. All supporting materials which were required to be submitted with the original application; and
c. Copies of the voting forms of the IAC members.

6. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

A written motion for reconsideration of the IAC decision denying the application may be filed by the aggrieved party within five (5) working days from date of receipt of the written notice of disapproval. Said motion shall be addressed to the IAC and filed with the IAC Secretariat.

If the request for reconsideration is filed by mail, the date of mailing shall be deemed to be the date of filing.

Only one (1) motion for reconsideration shall be entertained.

6.1. The request for reconsideration shall contain the following:

a. The date of receipt of the notice of disapproval; and
b. The reasons or grounds on which the reconsideration is based: *Provided*, however, that only grounds directly pertinent to the advertising materials and directed to the reasons for disapproval shall be considered e.g., additional scientific data to support the claims.

6.2. The following grounds are not acceptable:

a. Allegations not directly related to the advertising materials sought to be reconsidered, such as but not limited to, loss of sales, loss of advertising contract, inability to meet deadlines and need to import the product; and
b. Allegations not directed to the grounds for disapproval.

The IAC shall evaluate the request for reconsideration and a vote of the majority of the members present shall be sufficient to render a decision of the IAC. All opinions whether for or against shall be in written form and will form part of the voting.

A copy of the decision shall be served upon the aggrieved party within five (5) days from the date of its rendition.

6. VALIDITY OF APPROVAL

The Certificate of Approval shall be valid for a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance. The Committee however, may, in special cases, issue a Certificate of Approval valid for less than one year.

7. REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

Materials subject of the request for extension shall be treated as new materials and will follow the same procedures for new applications.

8. NON-PUBLICATIONS/NON-AIRING

Non-publication or non-airing of the advertisement within six (6) months from the date of the issuance of the Certificate of Approval shall be a ground for the revocation of thereof without need of a hearing. Said revocation shall be effective as of the date of receipt of the notice of revocation.

9. GENERAL SCREENING CRITERIA

The deliberation shall cover both the general concepts and details of the text as well as the particular medium used. Bottom line of the deliberation shall be the over-all impact of the ad on the public to which it is addressed or to those who would generally have access to the publication.

The following shall be the guiding criteria in the screening:

9.1. Standard Messages

The following standard messages shall be incorporated in all advertisements:

ADVERTISEMENTS OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS

9.1.a. ENGLISH

9.1.a.1. Primary Standard Message
"BREASTMILK IS THE BEST FOR BABIES UP TO 2 YEARS"

9.1.a.2. Secondary Standard Messages
"THE USE OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS MUST ONLY BE UPON ADVICE OF A *HEALTH PROFESSIONAL*"
"THE IMPROPER USE OF BREASTMILK SUPPLEMENTS MAY BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH"

9.1.a.3. Primary Feeding Bottles and/or Teats Standard Message
"BREASTFEEDING IS THE BEST FOR BABIES UP TO 2 YEARS"

9.1.a.4. Secondary Feeding Bottles and/or Teats Standard Message
"THE IMPROPER USE OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS/ FEEDING BOTTLES AND TEATS MAY BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH"

9.1.a.5. Primary Complimentary Food Standard Message
"EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING IS THE BEST FOR BABIES UP TO SIX MONTHS"

9.1.a.6. Secondary Complementary Food Standard Message
"START COMPLEMENTARY FEEDING AT SIX MONTHS. INTAKE OF IMPROPERLY PREPARED COMPLEMENTARY FOODS MAYBE DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH"

9.1.b. FILIPINO

9.1.b.1. Primary Standard Message
"ANG GATAS NG INA ANG PINAKAMABUTI PARA SA BATA HANGGANG 2 TAON."

9.1.b.2. Secondary Standard Message
"ANG PAGGAMIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAS NG INA AY DAPAT SANG-AYON SA PAYO NG ISANG *HEALTH PROFESSIONAL*"
"ANG MALING PAGGAMIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAS NG INA AY MAAARING MAKASASAMA SA KALUSUGAN NG BATA"

9.1.b.3. Primary Feeding Bottles and/or Teats Standard Message
"ANG PAGPAPASUSO ANG PINAKAMAGALING PARA SA BATA HANGGANG 2 TAON"

9.1.b.4. Secondary Feeding Bottles and/or Teats Standard Message
"ANG MALING PAGGAMIT NG BOTELYA AT TSUPON AY MAAARING MAKASASAMA SA KALUSUGAN NG BATA"

9.1.b.5. Primary Complementary Foods Standard Message
"ANG GATAS NG INA LAMANG ANG PINAKAMABUTI PARA SA BATA SA UNANG ANIM NA BUWAN"

9.1.b.6. Secondary Complementary Foods Standard Message
"ANG PAGBIBIGAY NG KARAGDAGANG PAGKAIN AY DAPAT SANG-AYON SA PAYO NG ISANG *HEALTH PROFESSIONAL*"

LABELLING OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS

9.2. Standard Pro-Forma Message

9.2.1. The following messages shall be printed on all labels of commercially sold infant formula (used only by infants with metabolic disorders) including the so-called special milk formula (supplement instead of formula), the so-called low birth weight milk formula (there is no such thing as LBW formula), and follow-on milk formula (which we require to be called milk supplement):

IMPORTANT: "BREASTMILK IS THE BEST FOR BABIES UP TO 2 YEARS"
"THE USE OF MILK SUPPLEMENTS MUST ONLY BE UPON ADVICE OF A *HEALTH PROFESSIONAL*"
"THE IMPROPER USE OF BREASTMILK SUPPLEMENTS MAY BE DANGEROUS TO YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH"

MAHALAGA: "ANG GATAS NG INA ANG PINAKAMABUTI PARA SA BATA HANGGANG 2 TAON"
"ANG PAGGAMIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAS NG INA AY DAPAT SANG-AYON SA PAYO NG ISANG *HEALTH PROFESSIONAL*"
"ANG MALING PAGGAMIT NG ANUMANG PAMALIT SA GATAS NG INA AY MAAARING MAKASASAMA SA KALUSUGAN NG BATA"

9.2.2. The message shall be at least 1/6 of the type size of the biggest letter/logo of the label.

9.2.3. The message shall be written in bold letters on the uppermost border of the principal display panel.

9.2.4. The use of the term "milk supplement" shall replace the phrase "follow-on formula" on the label of the follow-on formula breastmilk substitute.

9.2.5. Concerning labels – The following pictures/drawings are not allowed:

a) an infant;
b) a woman with a feeding bottle;
c) an infant and a woman holding a feeding bottle;
d) a woman holding a feeding bottle;
e) a feeding bottle with or without white substance inside the bottle on the principal display panel; and
f) pack /product shots covered by the code.

9.3. For PRINT advertisements, the primary standard message shall be at least 1/3 of the size of the largest letter/logo in the ad materials. Primary and Secondary standard messages shall be contained in all advertisements and should be prominently displayed and emphasized. The size of the secondary messages should be 3/4 of the size of the primary message. The actual picture of a Filipino breastfeeding mother is included in the standard messages and both mother and baby should be depicted as beautiful, happy and healthy.

9.4. For purely AUDIO advertisements (radio ads), the primary message should be mentioned at least before the catch line or the last line of the promotional material.

9.5. For purely AUDIO-VISUAL advertisements (TV ads), the primary standard message with an actual breastfeeding logo shall be flashed, second to the last frame for at least three (3) seconds. Voice-over for the primary standard message shall be a requirement.

9.6. The following are not allowed:

9.6.1. Advertisement of infant formula from birth to 6 months.

9.6.2. Corporate displays which include products under E.O. 51 Announcements of program sponsorship e.g. "This program/special is brought to you by.. . "containing only the name of the company." This shall require only a Certificate of Clearance subject to the same application procedures as provided herein.

9.6.3. Special displays

9.6.4. Shelf talker/vision, floor vision

9.6.5. Mobiles

9.6.6. Endorsement (direct or indirect) of product by parents, doctors, health professionals, experts or scientist in Nutrition.

9.6.7. Pictures/drawing of:

a. An infant holding a feeding bottle
b. An infant and a woman holding a feeding bottle
c. A woman holding a feeding bottle
d. A feeding bottle containing a white substance
e. A baby and the product shot in one frame
f. A man and a woman with a product shot
g. A feeding bottle on the principal display panel
h. Appearance of infant and mother with the brand product.

9.7. Print Ad/Product Shots are not allowed as false cover, detachable insert (i.e., bookmarks and souvenir program) and inside front and back and outside back cover.

9.8. Print Ad on infant feeding bottles or any graduated container made of glass, plastic or similar materials should be limited to MIMS & PIMS (Philippine Index of Medical Specialties).

9.9. Hanging of streamers, banners, posters, billboards should be limited to conventions and medical functions targeting medical doctors only, and should not be displayed in stores/trade outlets, government facilities and along highways. Materials must show only the company name/logo and not the product.

9.10. Other Advertising materials

Price cards containing only the name of the product and/or the company and the price and should be confined in store or supermarket shelves for the intent and purpose of selling the products on display.

9.11. Manufacturers and importers of milk supplements shall have six (6) months from the effectivity of these guidelines to exhaust the remaining stocks of the products whose labeling does not comply herewith.

10. ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION

10.1. The advertisements must contain accurate and clear information.

10.2. Proofs substantiating any of the claims/assumptions/information must be submitted. The IAC will accept only proofs that are scientific, objective and clear from researches not funded by the companies and/or their affiliates.

11. THE "TOTAL EFFECT"

All health and nutrition claims for products which have high potentials of misleading the public shall not be allowed.

Promotion of products covered by the scope of the Code must be objective and should not idealize the product over breastmilk or breastfeeding in the advertising concept. It must not in any case undermine breastmilk or breastfeeding. The "total effect" should not directly or indirectly suggest that buying the product means giving love and affection by parents or relatives or that patronizing the product will bring better health to the baby.

12. MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

The Department of Health – Bureau of Food and Drugs shall be principally responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the Code.

In the event advertisements are aired, published, released or disseminated:

a. Without the corresponding Certificate of Approval;
b. Without conforming exactly with the approved copy on file with the IAC; or
c. Without the Certificate of Approval Number, as required,

the IAC Secretariat shall immediately issue a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) signed by the Chairman of the Committee against the manufacturer, the advertising company and the newspaper, establishments and the radio/TV stations concerned ordering the withdrawal of the promotional materials within the following periods:

a. Radio/TV Commercials – Twenty four (24) hours from receipt of the CDO;
b. Newspapers and other Print Publications other than posters – Three (3) days in Metro Manila and one (1) week in provinces from date of receipt of the CDO in case of daily publications and in the succeeding issue in all other cases; and
c. Posters and other collateral materials such as streamers, banners, etc. – One (1) week from receipt of the CDO within Metro Manila and two (2) weeks in all other areas within the Philippines.

In the event the CDO is not complied with within the time prescribed above, the IAC Secretariat shall immediately submit a report of non-compliance of the CDO to the Legal Division of BFAD for the prosecution of the erring firms/entities.

All previous administrative issuances and guidelines relative to E.O. 51, s. 1986 inconsistent with these guidelines are hereby repealed and/or modified, accordingly.

These guidelines shall be effective immediately following its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

August 2, 2004. Manila, Philippines.

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL:

Adelisa Cifra Ramos
ADELISA CIFRA-RAMOS, MPH, MPA, CESO IV
Deputy Director for Food, BFAD

ATTY. HJALMAR M. QUINTANA, JR.
State Counsel II, DOJ

EVELYN U. SENATIN, M.D.
Medical Officer IV, DSWD

JRalitagtag
JOSEFA R. ALITAGTAG
Sr. Trade Ind. Dept. Specialist-DTI

DR. JUANITA BASILIO
Medical Officer VII, DOH

APPROVED BY:

HON. MANUEL M. DAYRIT, MD, MSc.
Secretary of Health
Chairman

HON. CESAR V. PURISIMA
Secretary of Trade & Industry
Member

HON. MA. MERCEDITAS N. GUTIERREZ
Acting Secretary of Justice
Member

HON. CORAZON JULIANO SOLIMAN
Secretary of Social Welfare & Development
Member

(PDI--Oct. 17, 2004)

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giathai@ksc.th.com www.giathailand.com

FOR SALE

Established Bakeshop's Goodwill, Stall/ Shop (Robinsons Metro East & Kapitolyo, Pasig) And Slightly Used Bakeshop Equipments

Robinsons Metro East Stall and Equipments – PhP 380,000.00

- Right to lease the stall; Two (2) Unifrost Chillers
- One (1) Working Chiller Table; and Kiosk

Kapitolyo, Pasig Baker/Shop – Php 330,000.00

- One (1) huge Chiller; One (1) Unifrost Refrigerated Cabinet;
- One (1) Long Stainless Steel Working Table; One (1) Big KitchenAid Cake Mixer; One (1) Small KitchenAid Cake Mixer;
- One (1) Sanyo Refrigerator; Two-Deck Oven; and
- Assorted Baking Utensils;

Goodwill – Php 350,000.00

Interested buyers may contact
Mr. Ricardo Maniego II
at 421-9318 or 422-5089.

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
City of Bayawan
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The City Government of Bayawan thru its BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE invites interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply and delivery of the following items:

BID NO.	PR NO.	ITEMS	ABC	SOURCE OF FUNDS	DATE/TIME	
					Pre-bid Conference	Deadline/Opening Of Bids
04-185	Various	Construction Materials for Various Projects	4,428,411.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 25Oct2004	10:30 AM, 08Nov2004
04-186	04-2052	Oil and Lubricants for Dump Trucks and Heavy Equipment	1,883,200.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 25Oct2004	10:30 AM, 08Nov2004
04-187	04-1393	Reconditioned Dump Truk - 6 wheelers, Japan Surplus	500,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 25Oct2004	10:30 AM, 08Nov2004
04-188	04-2087	Office Equipment, Furniture & Fixtures, IT equipment, Other Equipment, Service Vehicle and Motorcycle	687,100.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 25Oct2004	10:30 AM, 08Nov2004
04-189	04-2049	Hematocrit Centrifuge and Accessories Dental Equipment and 2 Air-conditioning units (2Hp)	458,350.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 25Oct2004	10:30 AM, 08Nov2004
04-190	Various	Medicines and Medical Supplies for City Health Office	1,372,047.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 25Oct2004	10:30 AM, 08Nov2004
04-191	04-1317	3-Cylinder 12-Valve Engine for Suzuki Easy Ride	50,000.00	General Fund	2:00 PM, 25Oct2004	10:30 AM, 08Nov2004

Place of Delivery FOB BAYAWAN CITY WAREHOUSE. **Period of Delivery** 12 Calendar Days upon receipt of Purchase Order. **Warranty Required** 3 months for supplies, 1 year for equipment. Retention money or special bank guarantee equivalent to 10% of contract price will be withheld to cover such warranty obligation.

In order to qualify for participation in the public bidding, the bidders should conform to all the eligibility criteria as prescribed under Section 23 of IRR-A of Republic Act No. 9184.

Bid documents shall be available at the BAC Office, Annex Building Sports Complex Building, LGU Bayawan City starting October 20, 2004 upon payment of prescribed non-refundable fee.

Bidders shall drop their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in two separate envelopes in the bid boxes at the BAC Office, Bayawan City on or before the deadline of submission of bids.

All particulars relative to eligibility process, opening and evaluation of bids, post-qualification and award of contract shall be governed by the applicable provisions of RA 9184.

The City of Bayawan reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or formality therein and to accept bids considered responsive and most advantageous to the government.

Details of bid items are posted at the official website of the City of Bayawan, the www.bayawancity.gov.ph the G-EPS, and at the BAC Bulletin Boards, LGU Bayawan City. For more information, please contact the BAC Secretariat at Telephone Numbers (035) 531-0638 and 531-0020 local 107.

(Sgd) PANCHO F. VILLASIS
City Administrator, Chairman, BAC

(PDI– Sept. 17 & 24, 2004)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

UCPB PROPERTY MARKET

NATIONWIDE AUCTION

OCTOBER 23, 2004 • 9:00 A.M.• UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY

10% DOWNPAYMENT **11%** INTEREST **10** YEARS TO PAY

SUBDIVISIONS

Lipa, Batangas
MOUNT MALARAYAT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
RESIDENTIAL LOTS

870 sqm	P 2,757,404.57
875 sqm	P 2,773,251.72
925 sqm	P 2,931,723.25
1,032 sqm	P 3,270,852.32
1,056 sqm	P3,346,918.65
1,283 sqm	P 4,066,379.38
1,566 sqm	P 4,963,328.23
1,632 sqm	P 5,172,510.64
1,830 sqm	P 5,800,057.89
2,012 sqm	P 6,376,894.25

Antipolo City
COTTONWOODS HEIGHTS
RESIDENTIAL LOTS

202sqm	P760,000.00
212sqm	P805,600.00
217sqm	P824,600.00
230sqm	P874,000.00
242sqm	P919,600.00
254sqm	P965,200.00
304sqm	P1,155,200.00
325sqm	P1,235,000.00
385sqm	P1,463,000.00
413sqm	P1,569,400.00

Antipolo City
FOLIAGE HILLS
RESIDENTIAL LOTS

177sqm	P672,000.00
178sqm	P676,400.00
180sqm	P684,000.00
182sqm	P691,600.00
184sqm	P699,200.00
185sqm	P703,000.00
187sqm	P710,000.00
202sqm	P767,600.00
216sqm	P820,000.00
240sqm	P912,000.00.

Antipolo City
HILLS OF MAIA ALTA
RESIDENTIAL LOTS

153sqm	P535,500.00
160sqm	P560,000.00
168sqm	P588,000.00
173sqm	P605,500.00
177sqm	P619,500.00
195sqm	P682,500.00
300sqm	P1,050,000.00
306sqm	P1,071,000.00
326sqm	P1,141,000.00
357sqm	P1,249,500.00

CONDOMINIUMS

San Antonio Village, Makati City
PALM TOWER
COMMERCIAL UNITS

15.25sqm	P421,357.50
16,16sqm	P446,500.80
17.40sqm	P480,762.00
20.30sqm	P560,869.00
21.62sqm	P597,360.00
29.19sqm	P806,519.70
34.29sqm	P947,432.70
45.63sqm	P1,199,156.40
52.20sqm	P1,371,816.00
66.00sqm	P1,734,480.00

San Antonio Village, Makati City
PALM TOWER
RESIDENTIAL UNITS

23.66sqm	P862,407.00
36.36sqm	P1,204,243.20
36.36sqm	P1,263,164.40
42.65sqm	P1,274,382.00
50.18sqm	P1,661,961.60
73.61sqm	P2,086,843.50
75.15sqm	P2,367,225.00
101.97sqm	P3,046,863.60
107.04sqm	P3,034,584.00
152.02sqm	P4,432,903.20

SUBDIVISIONS

Davao City
TIERRA SOLARIEGA
RESIDENTIAL LOTS

174sqm	P 556,800.00
186sqm	P595,200.00
194sqm	P620,000.00
200sqm	P640,000.00
400sqm	P1,280,000.00
450sqm	P1,440,000.00
504sqm	P1,612,800.00
689sqm	P2,204,800.00
653sqm	P2,220,000.00
730sqm	P2,336,000.00

Biñan, Laguna
TOWN & COUNTRY SOUTHVILLE
RESIDENTIAL LOTS

116sqm	P226,200.00
120sqm	P234,000.00
150sqm	P292,500.00
173sqm	P337,350.00
182sqm	P373,100.00
209sqm	P 428,450.00
211sqm	P432,550.00
250sqm	P512,,500.00
267sqm	P547,350.00
300sqm	P 615,000.00

MANILA CITY

UCPB 513 – OLD APT BLDG
L.A. 571.2sqm
1427 Loyhan St. Paco Manila
Minimum Bid Price: P 12,000,000

UCPB 618– COMML LOT W/ STRCTRE
L.A 1,758.80sqm
Unlong Medical Center, Batangas St
Minimum Bid Price: P 29,015,910

UCPB 620– COMML LOT
L.A 832.7sqm
No 2244 Taft Avenue, Malate
Minimum Bid Price: P 27,160,200

MAKATI CITY

UCPB 518 – COMML LOT
L.A 476sqm
Kalayaan Corner Kuwit St. Sta. Cruz Makati
Minimum Bid Price: P 11,950,000

ALABANG MUNTINLUPA

UCPB 527 – HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 10,000sqm, F.A 1,217.92sqm
517 Acacia Ave
Minimum Bid Price: P 132,350,000

QUEZON CITY

UCPB 534 – HOUSE & LOT
L.A 600sqm
41 Sct. Limbaga Street.
Minimum Bid Price: P 13,400,000

UCPB 538– HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 800 sqm (3 LEVELS)
No. 60 Highland Drive, Blueridge
Minimum Bid Price: P 16,920,000

UCPB 642– RSDL LOT
L.A. 3,139sqm
Green Meadows Ave. Green Meadow Subd
Minimum Bid Price: P 48,582,000

GREENHILLS SAN JUAN

UCPB 867– CONDO W/ PARKING
F.A 183.4 SQM
Unit 22 B, Platinum 2000, Annapolis
Minimum Bid Price: P 6,070,000

UCPB 526 – HOUSE & LOT
L.A 600sqm, F.A 342sqm
443 Duke St. Greenhills East
Minimum Bid Price: P 17,490,000

UCPB 647– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 926sqm
31 cor Madison & Polk St. North Greenhills
Minimum Bid Price: P 38,466,000

CAVITE CITY

UCPB 663 A – COMML LOT
L.A 3,324sqm
Macuria Business Center, Bo. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: P 26,924,400

TAGAYTAY CITY

UCPB 594– VACANT LOT
L.A 11,572sqm
Bo. Maharlika East, Tagaytay
Minimum Bid Price: P 18,900,000

LAGUNA

UCPB 666– COMML LOT
L.A. 27,851sqm
Maharlika Hi-way, Brgy. San Benito
Minimum Bid Price: P 36,308,949

ISABELA / CAGAYAN CITY

UCPB 705– PIGGERY
L.A 32,357sqm (Various)
Bo. Road, Bo. Del Pilar, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price: P 22,745,000

AKLAN CITY

UCPB 712– MEMORIAL PARK
L.A 41,867sqm (8 TITLES)
Interior of Bo. Tigayon Kalibo,
Minimum Bid Price: P 13,022,078

UCPB 713– HOSPITAL
L.A 1,577sqm, L.A 3,083sqm
Roxas Ave Ext
Minimum Bid Price: P 24,537,300

UCPB 731– COMML LOT w/ W. HOUSE
L.A 6,058sqm
National Rd & Bo. Rd Caticlan Proper Malay
Minimum Bid Price: P 12,080,000

ANTIPOLO

UCPB 649– RSDL LOT
L.A 834sqm
Selford Street, Town & Country Estates,
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,853,000

UCPB 556– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 185sqm, F.A 164sqm
Coolidge St. Cuesta Verde Executive Village.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,180,000

UCPB 557– RSDL LOT
L.A 616sqm
Mount Everest Fairmont Hills
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,540,000

UCPB 651– RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,151sqm
Town & Country Estates Bo. Mayamot
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,936,600

UCPB 560– RSDL LOT
L.A 300sqm
New York Bend, Palos Verdes Subd
Minimum Bid Price: P 675,000

UCPB 652– RSDL LOT
L.A 1,004sqm
Brgy. Rd Brgy. May – Iba Teresa
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,557,000

UCPB 555– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 110sqm, F.A 72sqm
San Remo, Hills of Maia Alta
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,853,000

UCPB 653– COMML LOT
L.A. 750sqm
Marcos Hi-Way Brgy. Mayamot
Minimum Bid Price: P 7,500,000

UCPB 558– HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 192sqm, F.A 126sqm
#8 Mayon St. Town & Country Hills
Minimum Bid Price: P 935,000

BULACAN

UCPB 575– IND'S FACTORY
L.A. 22,311.46sqm F.A VARIOUS
Northwest Line of Provincial Rd. Bo Patubig
Minimum Bid Price: P 38,740,000

UCPB 577– COMML LOT
L.A 444sqm
Mc Highway, Bo. Burol 1st, Balagtas
Minimum Bid Price: P 10,490,000

CAINTA/ TAYTAY/ ANGONO

UCPB 565– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 240 sqm, F.A 2087sqm
Williamburg St. Richmond Subd Angono
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,890,000.00

UCPB 569– HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 735sqm, F.A 99sqm
Bucharest St. Eastvile Cainta
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,320,000

UCPB 564– RSDL LOT
L.A. 345sqm
No. 7 Yakal St. Doña Justas Subd., Angono
Minimum Bid Price: P 585,000

UCPB 570– HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 805 sqm, F.A 357.5sqm
Dona Justana Cor Dona Juliana Filinvest Home
Minimum Bid Price: P 7,800,000

UCPB 572– RSDL LOT
L.A 524 sqm
#151 Ilang – Ilang St. Nieves Hills Subd Angono
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,100,000

UCPB 573– RSDL LOT
L.A. 230,226sqm
Along Feeder Rd Bo. Guitnang Bayan
Minimum Bid Price: P 11,500,000

BATANGAS CITY

UCPB 603– POULTRY & PIGGERY
L.A 37,117sqm, w/ HOUSE
National Road Bo. Tangob,
Minimum Bid Price: P 6,631,200

UCPB 604– RSDL LOT
L.A 444sqm (VARIOUS)
Palmridge Pointe, Batangas
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,889,400

UCPB 606– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 4741sqm, F.A 330.81
National Rd Bo. Santiago
Minimum Bid Price: P 4,220,000

UCPB 607– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 761sqm
Lodlod Road, Purok 6
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,555,000

UCPB 606– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 886sqm
Bo. Rd. Tilambo, Taysan
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,010,000

UCPB 677– POULTRY FARM
L.A 19,927sqm, F.A 4,954.5
Bo. San Fernando, Malvar
Minimum Bid Price: P 7,280,000

ILOILO CITY

UCPB 746– RICE MILL
L.A 48,218 sqm (VARIOUS BLDG)
Bo. Sambag, Municipality of Zarraga
Minimum Bid Price: P 11,200,000

UCPB 747– PENSION HOUSE
L.A 704 sqm (DILAPIDATED)
Fuentes & Do Gulle St. Bo. San Agustin
Minimum Bid Price: P 6,651,000

UCPB 748– AGRI – LOT
L.A 40,000 sqm (10 TITLES)
Bo. Alaguisoc, Jordan Guimaras Island
Minimum Bid Price: P 1, 980,000

UCPB 749– AGRI - LOT
L.A 28,410 sqm
Provincial Road Guinobatan, Leganes
Minimum Bid Price: P 7,740,000

UCPB 750– AGRI – LOT
L.A 54,431sqm
Bo. Agutayan, Sta. Barbara
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,430,000

UCPB 751–RSDL LOT
L.A 1,000 sqm
Brgy. Baldoza Lapaz
Minimum Bid Price: P 850,000

UCPB 752 –RSDL LOT
L.A 5,536 sqm
Molo-Arevalo Blvd., Bo. Sto. NiÑo Sur, Arevalo
Minimum Bid Price: P 4, 575,000

UCPB 753– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 254sqm, F.A 176sqm
Bankers Village IV Quintin Salas, Jaro
Minimum Bid Price: P 765,000

UCPB 754– RSDL LOT
L.A 499sqm
L.J Ledesma Subd. Jaro
Minimum Bid Price: P 750,000

UCPB 755– RSDL LOT
L.A 351sqm.
Don Francisco Village, Jaro
Minimum Bid Price: P 666,900

UCPB 756– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 306sqm, F.A 161sqm
Grand Plains Subd. Jaro
Minimum Bid Price: P 868,068

UCPB 758– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 1,806sqm, F.A 195sqm
Guanco St. Arevalo
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,965,000

UCPB 760– RSDL LOT
L.A 400sqm
Bonifacio St. Arevalo
Minimum Bid Price: P 730,000

UCPB 761– RICE MILL
L.A 1,787sqm
Gonzaga St. Poblacion Pavia
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,860,000

UCPB 762– RSDL LOT
L.A 1,095sqm
Serrano St. Poblacion Cabatuan
Minimum Bid Price: P 930,000.00

UCPB 763 – RSDL LOT
L.A 4,470sqm
Cor Gustilo-Magsaysay St., La Paz
Minimum Bid Price: P 9,240,000.00

UCPB 764 – RSDL LOT
L.A 500sqm
San Rafael, Mandurriao
Minimum Bid Price: P 6,050,000.00

CEBU CITY

UCPB 778– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 228 sqm, F.A 211.85
St. Jude Acre, Bulacao,
Minimum Bid Pr ice: P 1, 976,718

UCPB 779– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 2,822sqm F.A 870sqm.
Talisay
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,722,278

UCPB 780– RSDL LOT
L.A 1,150 sqm
Bo. Of Sangi, Lapu-lapu City
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,600,000

UCPB 781– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 524 sqm, F.A 204sqm
No. 21-F Nichol's Heights Subd., Guadalupe
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,342,555

UCPB 782– RSDL LOT
L.A 201 sqm
Espina Village, Edma Subd
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,406,556

UCPB 783– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 687sqm, F.A 118 sqm
Bo. Lipata Minglanilla
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,370,000

UCPB 784– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 186sqm (unfinished house)
Longkakang Subd. Horshoes Hills Subd
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,187,200

UCPB 785– HOUSE & LOT
L.A 300sqm, F.A 292sqm
Montereyo Compd. Banilad Mandaue
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,010,000

DAVAO CITY

UCPB 810 – COMML LOT
L.A 7,790sqm (VARIOUS) 3 TITLES
J.P. Laurel Avenue & V. Mapa St. San Roque
Minimum Bid Price: P 183,390,000

UCPB 816– SUBDIVISION
L.A 234,888sqm (269 TITLES)
Brgy. Communal, Buhangin
Minimum Bid Price: P 42,500,000

UCPB 825– RSDL LOT
L.A 10,000sqm
Lower Tamugan, Marilog
Minimum Bid Price: P 11,157,888

UCPB 831– RSDL LOT w/ IMPROV
L.A 121sqm (VARIOUS)
Green Meadow Subd. Nat'l Highway
Minimum Bid Price: P 13,210,000

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AUCTION MANAGER
THE PROPERTY FORUM
TELEPHONE NOS.: (02)534-9536 or (02)534-6954 (MON - SUN, 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.)
CALL CENTER: (02)633-1988 to 90 (MON - SUN, 10:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.)
CELLPHONE NO.: 09206186282

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West of Ayala
Ayala Gil Puyat Ave. Makati
First class amenities:
Swimming pool, gym, sauna
For only 40T/ sq.m.
(4 units) 1 BR
(57.85 sq.m. @ 2.3M)
2 BR also @ 3.8M
Parking @ 380T
Units are available for viewing
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Mobile: (0917) 837-6607

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GOOD 4 CALL CENTER
W/ AREA OF 1,200 SQ.M.
6TH FLR ONE CORPORATE PLAZA BLDG., 845 A. ARNAIZ AVENUE, MKT. CITY
LOOK 4 NENE AT 813-6515

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Kamias Rd 250 / Day / 4267157

Kamias Rd 3.5T Nice 426-7157

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P120l Mla 4118679/7836781

P200 Sucat Pque 8275345

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1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

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2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/out taking car 6567685

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BILLIARDS

26T New Compl Sr Imptd 7767507

Sale/Rental/Service 8014494

BUY/SELL

CAP/ PRUD PLANS 09177939632

FURNITURE/ FIXTURES

NARRA SALA SET 8244183

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GRGE SALE OCT 17, 9-4PM 150-A 9th St New Mla QC

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327th PCCI & 328th PCCI
ALL-BREEDS DOGSHOWS
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JULIA VARGAS CORNER MERALCO AVE., PASIG CITY
UNDER INT'L JUDGES
MR. ICHIRO ISHIKAWA
(Japan)
MR. TOMIO FUJIHATA
(Japan)
STRICLY NO ADDENDUM
SHOW SCHEDULE
SUNDAY
October. 17, 2004
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Registration and Judging of Non-Sporting & Herding Grp
12:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Registration & Judging of Working Group
CORPORATE SPONSORS:
ADVANCE
SCIENCE DIET

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

JMH Pawnshop will hold an Auction Sale on all unredeemed & expired pledges on October 20, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at Bonifacio St., Libis, Tanay, Rizal. Greg Mendoza - Auctioneer

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late Martin & Amanda Jugo has been extrajudicially settled by their heirs per Doc. #67, Page #14, Book #18, Series of 1998 before Notary Public Atty. Eduardo Ungco, Jr. of Pasig City (Oct. 3, 10, 17 2004)

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TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Luisa G. Zaragosa who died on November 12, 1989 was extra-judicially settled among her heirs before Notary Public Atty. Edmedio Belen Bariga of Las Piñas Metro Mla. Per Doc. 179 Page No. 36 Book No. 34 Series of 2004
(PDI Oct. 3,10,17, 2004)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LEO J. SANTOS was extra-judicially settled and partitioned between the heirs as per Doc. No. 381, Page No. 78, Book No. 122, Series 2004 before Notary Public Juanito I. Vitug of Manila.
PDI-Oct. 10, 17 & 24, 2004

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Orgullo Kan Bikol Regional Trade Fair

THE RICH heritage of Bicol's arts finds unique expression in the various crafts produced by our small entrepreneurs. Noted for handcrafted products and ethnic foods, the region prides itself with its wealth of indigenous resources and native traditions. Supported by LGUs, line agencies, Philexport and APFTI, the public is invited to visit the Orgullo kan Bikol-Regional Trade Fair 2004 on Oct. 20 to 24, at the 5th Level, Bldg. B, Megatrade Hall 3, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City. Do not miss this chance to buy Bicol crafts/products and indigenous foods produced by small and medium enterprises.

Republic of the Philippines
National Electrification Administration
Quezon City

Needed Immediately

GENERAL MANAGER

for
Zamboanga Del Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc.
(ZANECO), Dipolog City

Qualifications:
- 30-50 years old
- Male or Female
- Graduate of Business Administration, Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, ECE), Accounting, Finance, Management or Behavioral Science
- With Master's Degree or Post-Graduate Degree preferred
- Must have at least five (5) years managerial experience in a utility-related business enterprise
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to relocate with his/her family in Dipolog City

Starting Salary: P35,000.00

Application form and additional information may be obtained from the Institutional Development Department, 6th Floor, NEA Building, NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City. Deadline for submission of application form is on 30 October 2004.

(Sgd.) **EDITA S. BUENO**
Administrator

LB (Land Bank) Realty Development Corporation

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

All contractors, registered and/or classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) for Buildings and Industrial Plant and preferably with experience in the construction of bank building or projects of identical scope of works and technology, are invited to apply for pre-qualification and to submit their bids for the renovation/construction of the following LBP BRANCH OFFICES.

Branch Office	Estimated Amount	Category
Cabanatuan Branch & Annex Bldg. Nueva Ecija	9.69M	Medium
Cainta, Rizal	17.31M	Medium
Guimba, Nueva Ecija	1.51M	Small
Clark Field, Pampanga	1.90M	Small
San Isidro, Nueva Ecija	2.88M	Small
Cebu (BOC), Cebu City	3.14M	Small
Tuguegarao Reg'l H.O., Cagayan	2.12M	Small

Pre-qualification requirements may be obtained from the Purchasing Unit of the Land Bank Realty Development Corporation at 30th flr. LBP Plaza, 1598 M.H. del Pilar corner J. Quintos Sts., Malate, Manila. Issuance of Pre-qualification Forms will start on October 18, 2004.

LBRDC reserves the right to change the cost estimates, the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference, submission of bids and date of bidding. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBRDC to invited bidders.

LBRDC likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur.In the preparation of their bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to the company.

For further details, please call Eng'r. Jaime S. Mendoza/Dolly Nativity Arandela/Aries L. Mendoza at 405-7169/405-7402/405-7135.

(Sgd.) CHAIRMAN
Committee on Bids and Awards

(PDI – Oct. 17, 2004)

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email: nanle@nlp.gov.ph

Office of the Director

October 11, 2004

NATIONAL LIBRARY HIKES FEES

The National Library of the Philippines would like to inform the public that it will increase its fees on COPYRIGHT REGISTRATIONS, from Php 120.00 to Php 200.00. CERTIFIED TRUE COPIES OF REGISTERED COPYRIGHT CERTIFICATES, RECORDALS AND OTHER CERTIFICATIONS from Php 30.00 to Php 100.00. Collection of new fees shall take effect 15 days upon release of this announcement.

(Sgd.) **PRUDENCIANA C. CRUZ**
Director IV

(PDI – October 15 & 17, 2004)

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
Diliman, Quezon City

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE OF ONE-YEAR WASTE OIL GENERATION

FOR EMB-DENR ACCREDITED WASTE TREATERS ONLY
"AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS

DATE OF BIDDING: October 27, 2004, 2:00 PM, Solarium Hall, Building-1, NPC Head Office Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

This public bidding is for the sale of one-year waste oil generation from the following:

ITEM	NPC THERMAL POWER PLANT AND LOCATION	MIN. BID PRICE
1	PANAY DIESEL, POWER PLANT-1 BRGY. TABUGON, DINGLE, ILOILO PROVINCE	P 4.40
2	BOHOL DIESEL POWER PLANT DAMPAS, TAGBILARAN CITY (BOHOL ISLAND)	P 4.40
3	NAGA POWER PLANT COMPLEX COLON, NAGA, CEBU PROVINCE	P 4.40
4	BATAAN COMBINED-CYCLE POWER PLANT BRGY. LUZ, LIMAY, BATAAN PROVINCE	P 4.40

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

1. PROPOSAL BOND DEPOSIT IN THE FORM OF CASH OR MANAGER'S/CASHIER'S CHECK EQUIVALENT TO PhP 120,000.00.
2. LATEST INCOME TAX RETURN 2003 ORIGINAL (OR CERTIFIED XEROX COPY) FOR THE BIDDER OR AN AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT (ORIGINAL) OF THE COMPANY.
3. VALID ACCREDITATION FROM EMB-DENR FOR TREATMENT/ STORAGE/DISPOSAL (TSD) FACILITY AND FOR THE WASTE TRANSPORTER, INCLUDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PERMIT TO TRANSPORT, WASTE MANIFEST FORM AND CERTIFICATE OF TREATMENT ALL ACKNOWLEDGED BY EMB-DENR.

Interested parties who wish to participate in the public bidding must present the original accreditation from EMB-DENR and may secure the official bid forms at P1,000.00/set from Mr. Samuel V. Lomuntad, Jr. at Ground Floor, Building-1, NPC Head Office, Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Q.C. or call telephone no. 924-5384. **Deadline for issuance of bid forms is 4:30 PM, October 26, 2004.**

For the Materials Management Department
(Sgd.) **FELIX B. TACATA, JR.**
OIC, MMD

(PDI - Oct. 17, 18 & 19, 2004)

United Nations Population Fund

INVITATION TO BID

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) would like to invite Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) to develop and implement a study to investigate the current behavioral, epidemiological and policy data on HIV/AIDS and existing information system in the Philippines in order to improve the quality and utilization of HIV/AIDS related data in the country. The NGOs shall submit SEALED BIDS to contract the required services described below:

OBJECTIVES
1) Verify the current HIV prevalence rate vis-à-vis behavioral data among groups with high-risk behaviors
2) Analyze vulnerability and risk factors present in the country, including social, political and cultural norms, that could influence the pace of spread of HIV.
3) Identify gaps in the data collection and management of information; and,
4) Recommend action to improve the information system and quality of data on the HIV/AIDS situation in the Philippines.

SCOPE OF WORK AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS
1) Areas of Research: Behavioral, Biomedical/Epidemiological, Surveillance/ Management Information System, Policy
2) Identify and hire a Technical Team composed of international and local experts, in consultation with UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS
3) Will be responsible for the following technical tasks: Draft research design and workplan to be approved by the Chair of the UN Theme Group on HIV/ AIDS. Submit final report that will contain: (a) the results and analysis in each area of the study including gaps identified; and, (b) recommendations to improve the information system and quality of data on the HIV/AIDS situation in the Philippines. Serve as resource persons during the dissemination forum.
4) Will be responsible for the following administrative functions: Collect secondary data as required by the research team. Set up appointments with key informants. Make travel and other administrative arrangements for required focus group discussions and out of town trips of the research team. Coordinate the printing of the final report. Organize the dissemination forum.
5) Ensure the timely conduct of activities including the submission of the Technical Team's deliverables
6) Coordinate with UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS, through the UNAIDS Secretariat, and regularly report on the progress of the project

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: NGO must have at least eight (8) years of excellent tract record on HIV/AIDS research in the Philippines. TIME TABLE: The study will be carried out over a period of twelve (12) months.

Detailed information is contained in the www.unfpa.org.ph. Interested parties may secure Bid Documents, Instruction to Bidders and Terms of Reference from the following address: **UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, 6th Floor, NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo Street, Legazpi Village, Makati City.**

Bid documents will be released to all interested parties strictly from 18 to 22 October 2004 only. The Bid Documents shall contain all instructions on the rules, procedures, bid opening dates, other schedules and requirements.

Bids must be delivered to the address no later than 6:00 p.m. of 29 October 2004. Late bids will be rejected. UNFPA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer to UNFPA based on UNFPA criteria. UNFPA assumes no obligation or responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made for this contract.

(PDI – October 17 & 18, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

JOSE YIA BENITEZ

This is to inform the public that **CHINA BANKING CORPORATION** has terminated for cause the services of JOSE YIA BENITEZ, whose picture appears above, effective close of business on 08 October 2004.

Any transaction entered with him in behalf of the Bank will not be honored.

CBC MANAGEMENT

(PDI–Oct. 17, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills
Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

ITB No. GOP/04-DSWD-004

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), a national government agency, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), is inviting duly accredited Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR DSWD EMPLOYEES NATIONWIDE THROUGH A HEALTH CARD SYSTEM.**

The program shall cover 2,538 regular, casual and contractual/co-terminus employees (with Phil. Health Insurance) which will be funded with a fixed available amount of **ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED PESOS** (Php 1,800) and 1,845 MOA workers (without Phil. Health Insurance) for **TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SIXTY PESOS** (Php 2,960) for a 12-month coverage for both.

For the purpose of this bid, eligible bidders shall be those who have accredited hospital and clinics in ALL regions of the country.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the **Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat** 2nd floor, DSWD, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone nos. 951-7116.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon submission of a letter of intent and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 2,500.00.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on November 3, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. to be held at the Administrative Conference Room, 2nd Floor, DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City.

Sealed applications for eligibility and bid proposal, together with the bid security, must be delivered to the BAC Secretariat on or before November 16, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. Thereafter, eligibility and bid envelopes will be opened in the presence of bidder's representative/s that chooses to attend. Opening of bids will be held at the Administrative Conference Room, 2nd Floor DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City. **Late bids will not be accepted.**

DSWD hereby reserves the right to reject any or all applications for eligibility and to bid, to waive any formality therein and/or accept the bid as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) CELIA C. YANGCO
Undersecretary and
Chairperson, BAC-II

(PDI – October 10 & 17, 2004)

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SMV P13M 0917-9822457

MARIKINA

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PARANAQUE

B/N/4BR/3TB/Attic/Grg/P3M /09176216966/8253416/09182418987

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PASIG

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QUEZON CITY

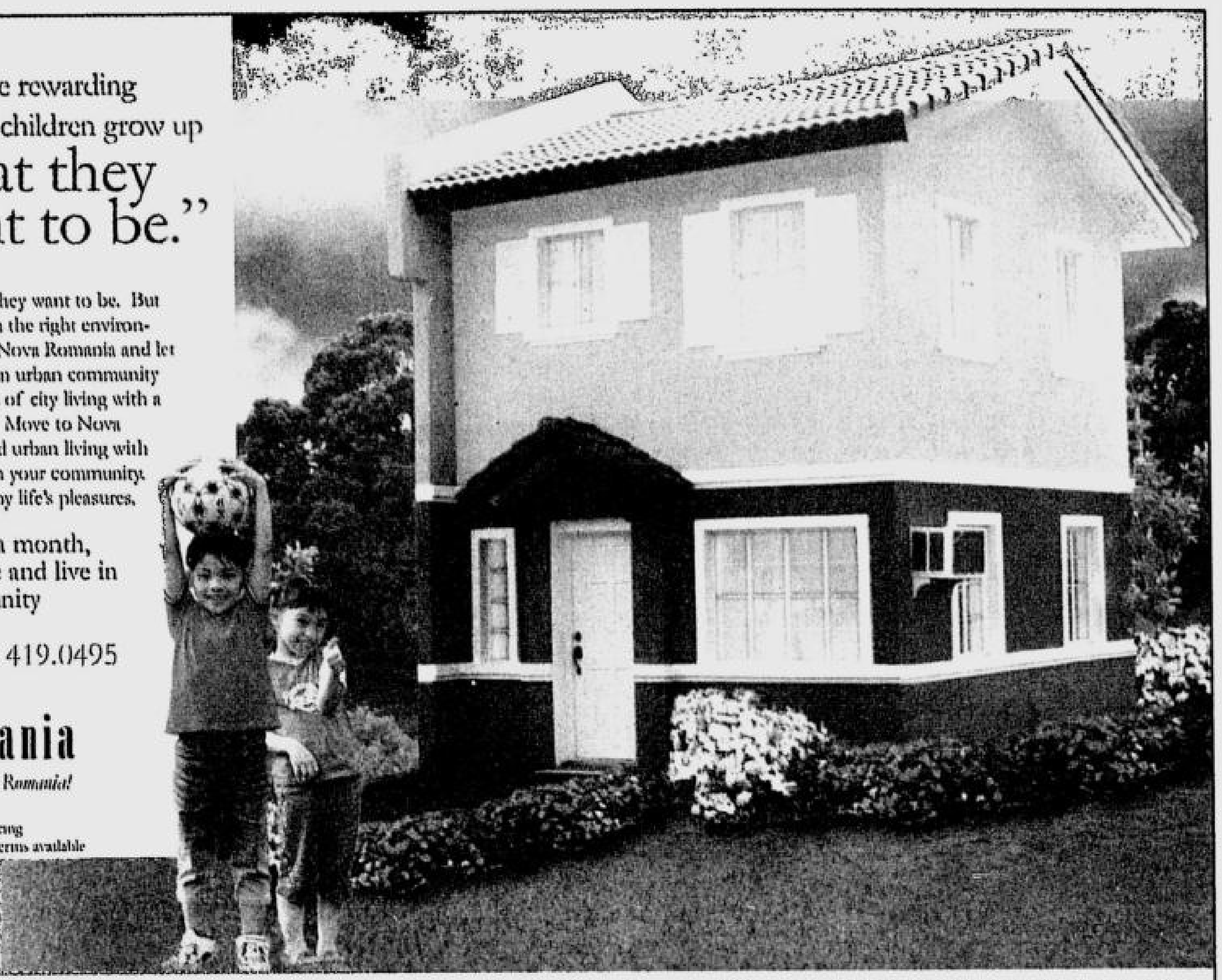
3BRTB1QTR 3.2M neg 9280672

6BR3TB Bung P4M 471-3063

•B-New #124 SCOUT CASTOR• 9210255/9967 ; 09277205673

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT



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HOUSE & LOT

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H&L 105 SQM NR STA LUCIA MALL CAINTA 0917-8145695

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

RIZAL

H&L 5M(neg) furnish LA309sqm FA220sqm 09178565615 / 6324027 BJ

OTHER AREAS

A PRIME SUBD 2 bdrms 1T&B LA 170m² P1.3M Vic 8903461 loc 25/27

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

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CONDO/TWNHSE

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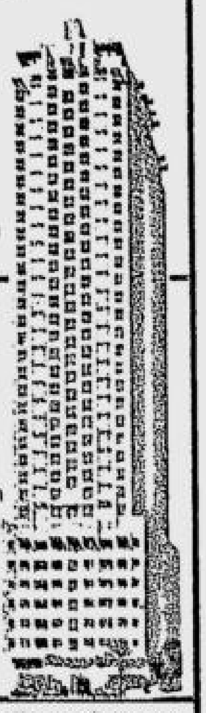

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Nr UST 4br 3tb 1cg 645-3731

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HOUSE & LOT

COMML/RESDL

PASIG

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANILA

NR UST, ESPANA TOWER 6873372 0917-8102903

SINGALONG MANILA Bnew/Twnhse 3stry/3br/3b/maid's rm 1-2grgs P1.990M up 8903461 loc. 34

Twnhses nr DLSU - Taft Ave LA42 - 485m 1Car P2.5M UP 562-3531 / 0917- 5272166

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Cityland Shaw 1br 0917-5213838

Twnhse P1.6M Very Nr EDSA Call Jackie • 0917-8100721

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HOUSE & LOT

CONDO/TWNHSE

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LOT

KALOOCAN

Rainbow Village 5 LA 210m² P3,473/m² Vic 8903461 loc 25

LAS PINAS

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Lot Edsa 400m² 645-3731

PARANAQUE

4th ESTATE 240m² 7168833

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

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HOUSE & LOT

LOT

PASIG

Rosario 1500 / 3000m² 645-3731

VV-5 PRIME LOT 504M² 45T/M² NEG 0917-8905747

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1900sqm Comml cor Kings Point Subd. 0917-3704556/3500358

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BATANGAS

RANCHO VISTA SUBD LA613m2 P2,284/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

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QUEZON CITY/ NOVALICHES

Res'l lot - Lot 4-B, Blk. 6, Bright Hills St., Brgy. Damayang Lagi, New Manila, QC, 348 sq.m., P 5,307,000.00

Lot w/ Imp - Capitol Park Homes Subd., Capitol Dist., QC, 400 sq.m., P 7,910,000.00

Res'l H&L - 2nd St. Carreon Village, San Bartoloma, Novaliches, QC, 240 sq.m., P 854,020.00

MARIKINA

Res'l w/ Imprvt. - No. 13 Naranghita St., Amang Rodriguez Vill., Brgy. Concepcion, Marikina City, 240 sq.m., P 2,385,750.00

Res'l H&L - L-2, B-29 Riverside Drive, Provident Subd., Jesus dela Peña, Marikina City, 282 sq.m., P 1,886,500.00

Townhouse - Unit 837-B, Katipunan St, Marikina Exec. Townhomes, Brgy. Sto. Nino, Bayanbayanan, 59.75 sq.m., P 1,300,000.00

MANILA

Res'l w/ bldg. - #420 Zabala St., Tondo, Manila, 400 sq.m., P 6,053,050.00

Res'l w/ Imprvt. - Santander St., Sampaloc, Manila, 51.75 sq.m., P 2,400,000.00

Res'l H&L - No. 2042-2044 Pres. Quirino Ave., Pandacan, Manila, 237.1sq.m., P 6,128,000.00

PASAY

Res'l TH - Unit 203 Roxas Seafront Garden, Pasay City, 100 sq.m., P 6,050,000.00

Office space condo unit - 11-1A EGI Rufino Plaza Condo, Gil Puyat, Ave., Pasay City, 61.503 sq.m. P 2,784,437.00

Office space condo unit - 11-2A EGI.Rufino Plaza Condo. Gil Puyat, Ave., Pasay City, 41.444 sq.m. P1,876,189.00

MAKATI CITY

Res'l Condo unit - No. 830 Cityland 8 Condo, Gil Puyat, Mktl. City, 33.26 sq.m., P 1,081,050.00

Res'l Condo Unit - Unit 1138 located at 11th flr., Dela Rosa St., Pio del Pilar, Mktl. City, 23.74 sq.m., P 831,070.23

Res'l condo unit - Unit Nos. 1122 located at 11th flr., Dela Rosa Condo., Dela Rosa St., Pio del Pilar, Makati City, 22.28 sq.m. P 800,000.00

PASIG CITY/TAGUIG

Res'l H&L - No. 434 M.H. del Pilar St., Bo. Pinagbuhatan St., Pasig City, 1,594 sq.m., P 12,320,000.00

Res'l H&L- No. 36 St. Jude St., Holy Family Subd., Taguig, 36sq.m., P 2,741,900.00

MALABON/CALOOCAN

Res'l vacant lot - Dampalit, Malabon, 265 sq.m., P 530,250.00

Res'l H&L- No. 69 N. Vicente St., Brgy. Niugan, Malabon, MM, 800 sq.m., P 5,751,000.00

Res'l w/ imprvt. - Rodriguez St, North Merville Park II Subd. Tanza, Navotas, 254 sq.m., P 1,619,720.00

LAS PIÑAS/ PARAÑAQUE/ MUNTINLUPA CITY

Res'l lot - Lot 5, Blk. 2 Jordan Loop, Christianville Subd., Las Pinas City, 297 sq.m., P 450,000.00

Res'l w/ Imprvt. - Rd. L-37 Soldier's Hill, Bo. Putatan Muntinlupa, MM, 180 sq.m., P 1,495,800.00

Res'l w/ Imprvt - #17 Finland St., Betterliving Subd., Brgy. Don Bosco, Parañaque City, 300 sq.m., P 3,041,800.00

SAN JUAN/MANDALUYONG/PASIG CITY/TAGUIG

Res'l condo unit - Unit C 8/F tower IV Governor's Place Condo, Mandaluyong, 84 sq.m., P 3,780,000.00

Condo Unit - Unit 26-GV, Midland Park Manor II, Ortigas Ave., San Juan, MM, 89.5 sq.m., P 3,132,000.00

Res'l condo unit - Unit 910 - Pacific Place Condo Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 100.10 sq.m., P 4,200,000.00

LAGUNA

Res'l/ Agri lot - L-947-A, Brgy. Sto. Angel Norte, Bo. Santisima Cruz, Sta. Cruz, Laguna, 10,844 sq.m. P 271,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 1-F-2, Brgy. Balong Malaque, Los Baños, Laguna, 1,000 sq.m., P2,400,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 24, Blk. 5, Northwet Side of Hilltop Drive, Holiday Hills Subd., Brgy. San Antonio, San Pedro, Laguna, 564 sq.m., P1,500,000.00

Lot 4, Blk. 9, Eccocentrum Businness Park, Bgy Halang, Biñan, Laguna, 1,354 sq.m., P 12,456,800.00

CAVITE/TAGAYTAY/BATANGAS

Res'l lot - Lot 6, Blk. 33, Manila Southwoods, Carmona, Cavite, 652 sq.m., P3,586,000.00

Res'l lot- Lot 643-J, within Brgy., Tuclong, Imus Cavite, 247.5 sq.m. P446,000.00

Res'l / Comm'l. lot - Lot 586-A M.K. Lina St., Brgy. Lipa City, 1,241.50 sq.m. P2,052,750.00

NUEVA ECIJA/CABANATUAN CITY/ BATAAN

Res' lot - Lot 27, Psd-218602, Bacani St., Bo. Santiago, Cabanatuan City, 1,593 sq.m., P318,650.00

Res'l lot - Nueva St., Bo. San Roque, Jaen, Nueva Ecija, 3,333 sq.m., P2,000,000.00

Res'l/ Agri - Brgy. Entablado, Cabiao, Nueva Ecija, 2,264 sq.m. P 514,000.00

Res'lots - 37 Lot 26, B-3, Bo. Mabuco, Hermosa, Bataan, 283 sq.m., P59,000.00

PANGASINAN/DAGUPAN/LA UNION/ BENGUET

Res'l lot - FV-13705-D, Sitio Tiptop, Brgy. Beckel, La Trinidad, Benguet, 7,523 sq.m., P9,027,600.00

Res'l H&L - Lot 28768-C, Brgy. Road Quintong, San Carlos City, 2,366 sq.m. , P 710,000.00

Res'l H&L - Lot 7915-B, Bo. Bonuan-Gueset, Dagupan City, 618 sq.m., P 591,500.00

Res'l H&L- Lot 4354-X-1, Tapuac District, Dagupan City, 340 sq.m., P2,150,000.00

ISABELA

Res'l H&L - National Road, Bo. Maligaya Tumauini, Isabela, 664sq.m., P1,064,000.00

Res'l/ Comm'l- #34 Prov. Rd. Guinatan Ilagan, Isabela, 432sq.m., P1,051,210.79

Res'l H&L- Bo. Rd, Bo Allinguigan II, Ilagan Isabela, 2,790sq.m., P558,000.00

CALAPAN, MINDORO

Res'l lot - Lot 3099-Q-4, Sta. Rosa II, Baco, Oriental Mindoro, 553 sq.m., P104,920.00

Res'l lot - Lot 26, ExecutiveHomes, Pachoca, Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, 108 sq.m., P167,500.00

Res'l lot - Lot 13, B-5, Brgy San Isidro, Victoria, Mindoro, 240 sq.m., P256,940.00

LEGASPI CITY

Res'l lot - Lot 26-B,B-3, Aerovilla Subd. Cruzada, Legazpi City, 51 sq.m., P546,250.00

Res'l lot - Lot 7982-A, Bo. Estanza, Legazpi City, 496 sq.m., P220,500.00

Res'l lot - Lot 7982, Bo Estanza, Legazpi City, 482 sq.m., P219,500.00

LAPU-LAPU/MANDAUE/CEBU

Res'l lot - L18681-A San Carlos Heights, Quiot Pardo Cebu City, 806 sq.m., P 1,209,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 4109 Basak-Agus Road, Brgy. Agus, Lapu-lapu City, 13,282 sq.m., P 15,507,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 27, Blk4 Bgy. Marigondon Lapu-lapu City, 732 sq.m., P 732,000.00

BACOLOD/NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

Res'l Lot - Sunshine Valley, Brgy. Estefania, Bacolod City, 1,157 sq.m., P 1,388,400.00
Res'l - L4-B Brgy. 6, Poblacion, Isabela, Negros Occ., 1,138 sq.m., P 515,300.00

Res'l H&L- St.Joseph Street, Dona Juliana Bacolod City, 240 sq.m., P 1,038,000.00

Res'l Lot - Rizal St. La Carlota, Negros Occidental, 1,853 sq.m., P 3,086,650.00

Res'l H&L - Lot 1412-B-4 Bgy. Mandalagan Bacolod City,1,200 sq.m., P 1,800,000.00

ILOILO

Res'l Lot - Don Julio Village, Brgy. Aganan, Pavia, Iloilo, 271sq.m., P217,000.00

Res'l lot - L5 Ma. Cristina Jaro, Iloilo City, 278 sq.m., P 195,000.00

Res'l lot - L4 B4 Don Venancio Gaticales Village, 205 sq.m., P88,000.00

Res'l H&L - L7259-B Palaga St., Bingawan, Iloilo, 1000 sq.m., P 957,000.00

Res'l lot - L20 B3 Greenfeild Subd., Cubay, Jaro, Iloilo City, 311 sq.m. P1,324,000.00

Res'l lot - L3 B20 Brgy. Cuartero, Jaro, Iloilo City, 329 sq.m., P400,000.00

KALIBO/AKLAN

Res'l lot - L F-2-D-3 Vizcarra Subd., Brgy. Andagao, Kalibo, Aklan, 1012 sq.m., P 911,000.00

Res'l Lot - Bo. Julita, Libacao Aklan, 12782 sq.m., P189,000.00

OZAMIS/DAVAO/MAIN, ILUSTRE, STA.ANA

Res'l lot- Aurora Quezon St., Brgy. 25-C, Davao City, 115 sq.m., P 719,000.00

Res'l lot-Poblacion St., Sto. Tomas, Davao City, 400 sq.m., P 200,000.00

Res'l lot- L6, B3, Bo. Magnum, Tagum, Davao City, 300 sq.m., P132,000

Res'l lot- Lot 8, Blk. 9, Bo. Magnum, Tagum, Davao City, 380 sq.m., P114,000.00

GENERAL SANTOS/SOUTH COTOBATO

Res'l L1-D Salvani St., Barrio Calumpang, General Santos City, 1,311sq.m., P2,480,015.32

Res'l lot- Barrio Calumpang, General Santos City, 541sq.m., P1,023,408.31

Res'l - L245-A, National Highway, Poblacion, Tupi, South Cotabato, 125 sq.m., P737,000.00

Res'l lot - L3 B37 Carmela Homes Subd., Purok2, Katangawan, Lagao, General Santos City, 203 sq.m., P352,000.00

BUKIDNON (MARAMAG/VALENCIA)

Res'l lot - Lot 24, B14, Valencia City, 180 sq.m., P 124,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 1053-A-8, Poblacion, Bukidnon, 800 sq.m., P 800,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 216-M, Poblacion, Valencia City, 400 sq.m., P206,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 162-G-I-H, Lumbo, Valencia City, 700 sq.m., P 315,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 162-G-I-J Lumbo, Valencia City, 782 sq.m., P 352,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 162-G-I-K Lumbo, Valencia City, 757 sq.m., P 341,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 162-G-I-L Lumbo, Valencia City, 613 sq.m., P 276,000.00

Res' lot - Lot 162-G-I-M Lumbo, Valencia City, 650 sq.m., P 293,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 162-G-I-N Lumbo, Valencia City, 862 sq.m., P 388,000.00

Res'l lot - Lot 162-G-I-P Lumbo, Valencia City, 121 sq.m., P 55,000.00

CAGAYAN DE ORO

Res'l H&L - Kauswagan, Brgy. 59, Cagayan de Oro, 2,120 sq.m., P3,973,000.00

Res'l H&L- Father Masterson St., Carmen, Cagayan de Oro, 334 sq.m., P1,100,000.00

Comm'l lot - Lot 4 Blk 9 Nazareth, Cagayan de Oro City, 240 sq.m., P1,680,000.00

• Other property listings are available upon request.

For Inquiries, please call: Metro Manila: Tess Onda/ Marita Yamson (830-0447) **Luzon:** Dennis Alaoria (811-6647) **Vismin:** Ritchie Yrac (891-3805) **Trunkline:** 817-4906 locals 2285/2292/2319/ 2200/2333 **Fax:** 892-4268 **email:** mtuason@bankcom.com.ph

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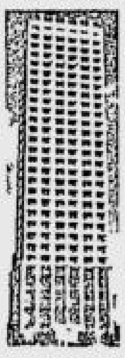

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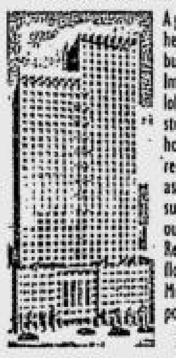

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ST. CHARBEL DASMA nr SM 371m2 P2,650/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

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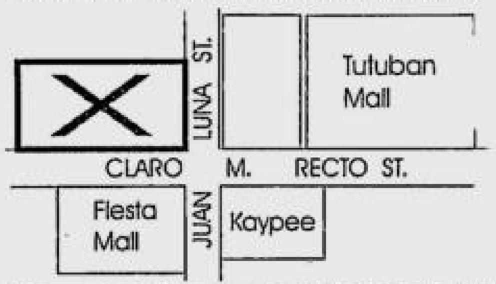

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Manila Memorial Park: The Plus Factor

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Ever the pioneer and innovator in the industry, the **Manila Memorial Park** once again leads the way with its new offering: the **Memorials Plus**. The first and largest memorial park in the country is now making its vast experience and resources in the field available to its loyal patrons, by making "memorial services more memorable and stress-free."

In this most emotional and volatile time in their lives, Park patrons will be allowed to relax and focus on the more important facets of the memorial service because the Park will take care of all the nitty-gritty details.

These details, after all, shouldn't take another second of their precious time.

As part of a special package, **Memorials Plus** covers such thoughtful amenities and services as: catering, flowers, balloons, photo and video coverage, music, interment band, and horse-drawn carriage.

Memorials Plus seeks to provide whatever poignant detail that would "make an interment or cremation ceremony truly unforgettable."

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Memories

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The **INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS** brings forth – *Memories* – a tabloid-sized supplement to be published on **October 29, 2004** in time for the remembrance of our beloved loved ones.

This supplement will be dedicated to pre-need plans, funeral homes, memorial parks and other product/services related to death care. This endeavor will give you a chance to showcase your product lines and the attributes that your services offer.

AD SIZE	RATES
FULL PAGE	54,862.50
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Suscipe me, Domine, secundum eloquium et vivam,
et non confudas me ab exspectatione mea. – PS. 118, v. 116

PAX

DOM ANSELMO ESMERO EVIDENTE, O.S.B.

A monk of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat, Manila, strengthened by the sacraments, died on October 15, 2004 at the age of 76, in the 53rd year of his monastic profession.

The Rt. Rev. Tarcisio Ma. Narciso, OSB, Abbot, and the monks of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat, his brothers and sisters: Recaredo Evidente, Sr., Felix Evidente, Encarnacion and Marianito Perocho, Sister Josephine, D.C., Lolita Garin Evidente, Eliuteria Ecube Evidente, and Isabelita Acosta Evidente; nieces, nephews, and other relatives, and his fellow workers, administrators, faculty, and service personnel of San Beda College, request their friends to join them in their prayers for his eternal rest.

His remains lie in state at the Nacional Memorial Homes, Chapel 3-B, and will be transferred to the Abbey Church at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 18. The Office of the Dead will be celebrated for him on Tuesday, October 19. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 20 at 9:00 in the morning at the Abbey Church, after which his remains will be cremated at Funeraria Paz Crematory (Araneta Ave.). His ashes will be reposed at the Abbey Cemetery.

"...absent from the body to be present with the Lord."
— 2 Corinthians 5:8

In Loving Memory

HUGO C. YONZON, Jr.

Nationalist Painter

HOLY MASSES WILL BE OFFERED ON OCTOBER 17,
ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PASSING AWAY,
AT THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES:

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH
TAGAYTAY CITY........................7:00 AM

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
NARITA CITY, CHIBA-KEN........................9:30 AM

HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL
FILINVEST 1, QUEZON CITY........................10:00 AM

ST. PATRICK CHURCH
NAGASAKI, ISHIMA KU, TOKYO........................11:30 AM

HIRATSUKA CATHOLIC CHURCH
KANAGAWA PREFECTURE, HIRATSUKA CITY........................2:00 PM

STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH
GEARY BLVD., SAN FRANCISCO, U.S.A.........................4:30 PM

MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH
MOONWALK, LAS PINAS CITY........................6:00 PM

ST. PAUL CHURCH
CONCEPCION, MARIKINA........................ALL MASS

Remembered in Love

ON THE OCCASION OF THE
13TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF

MAUREEN NAVARRO HULTMAN

TODAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004

MASSES WILL BE HELD AT SANTUARIO DE
SAN ANTONIO, FORBES PARK, MAKATI.

6:30 a.m.
7:45 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
12:00 noon
4:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of

MARIA ELENA P. BITANGA

who passed away
on October 6, 2004.

wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of you who offered prayers, sent flowers and spiritual offerings, kept vigil with us and in immeasurable ways were just there when we needed it most.

AIDA S. PERO

of Calinog, Iloilo

Peacefully joined our Lord
on October 12, 2004.

Her husband Paterno; sons Ruel, Elmer and Delby; grandchildren Ruby Faith, Sean Excel, and Stephen and other relatives request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the family residence in Roxas Street, Calinog, Iloilo.

Interment will be on Saturday, October 23, 2004 after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at the Calinog Parish Church.

ATTY. JOSE M. LOZANO

As long as the memory lives in the heart, it remains forever alive ...

Monasterio de Sta. Clara – Katipunan Rd., Q.C.	6:00 a.m. Oct. 18
St. Nicholas Tolentine Cathedral, Cabanatuan City	6:15 a.m.
St. Nicholas D Tolentine Cathedral Crypt, Cabanatuan City	6:30 a.m.
Chapel of Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Libis, Q.C	6:30 a.m.
Christ the King Church – Greenmeadows, Q.C	7:00 a.m.
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish – Kamuning, Q.C	6:00 p.m.
Santuario de San Jose – Greenhills, San Juan	6:15 p.m.
St. Mary Church – Walnut Creek, California	6:30 a.m.
Holy Innocents Church – Long Beach, California	7:00 a.m.
St. Thomas More Catholic Church – Middlesex, United Kingdom	9:30 a.m.
St. Boniface Parish Church – San Francisco, California	12:15 p.m.
Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish – Coquitlam, BC, Canada	9:30 a.m. 17 Oct.
Our Lady Queen of the World Church – Bay Point, California	11.00 a.m.
Pope Pius XII Parish Church, Cuyapo Nueva Ecija	6:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.

His wife, ATTY. JOSEFA LOZANO; children JOSE II, JOSEFA II & RIC RODA, JOSEFA III & WILLIE ORPIANO, JOSE IV & BECKY, JOSE V & JOYCE, JOSEFA IV & ROLANDO TAGAY, JOSE VI & LUDITH and JOSEFA V & BUDDY DE JESUS; grandchildren PJ & TRACY, PAULA, RICKY, MARIEL, CLOÉ, INIGO, CHRIS, BRIAN JOSEPH, JACOB, JOSHUA, CHARLES, MICHELLE, JANINA, JILLIANA, JENNA, JORJA & BRIAN and great grandchild, JAILYN request the pious readers and those whose lives Joe has touched to remember Tatay in your prayers on his 10th Death Anniversary, 18 October 2004.

ANGELINA ARCILLA LATONIO, M.D.

of Philam Homes, Quezon City
UP College of Medicine – Class 1946
wife of FELIPE C. LATONIO, SR. (†)

Peacefully joined her Creator on October 15, 2004 at the age of 83.

Her bereaved sons – Enrique, Conrado and Felipe Jr. and daughter – Angela; daughters-in-law; grandchildren; brother and sister; nephews and nieces; relatives and friends mourn her passing and request prayers for her eternal repose.

Her body lies in state at the Sta. Rita de Cascia Parish Church in Philam Homes, Quezon City. Masses will be said daily at 7 p.m.

Funeral Mass will be on Wednesday, October 20, 2004 at 7 p.m. Cremation and a Mass will be on Thursday, October 21, 2004, 9 a.m. at Funeraria Paz. Interment will follow at the Sta. Rita de Cascia Parish Church Crypt.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
— John 3:16

"Let the words of my mouth meet your Favor, keep the thoughts of my heart before you, Lord, my rock, my redeemer..." — Psalm 21:15

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- With good oral and communication skills

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- Fresh Graduates are welcome to apply

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LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SELLING PRICE
Lot 24 Blk. 3 The Strand, Nagbalayong, Morong, Bataan	Vacant parcel of land with an area of 581.00 m2 lies within a residential area of Morong, Bataan covered by TCT No. T-173048.	PHP2,000,000.00
Balarao St. Airport Village, Brgy. Moonwalk, Paranaque City	a 330 m2, 7-units two (2) storey row type townhouse (60% complete) with a total area of 458.84 m2. Near Doña Soledad Avenue. Covered by TCT No. 57547	PHP3,400,000.00
#7 CCC Compound Seminary Road, Bahay Toro, Quezon City	A total aggregate area of 570.00 m² industrial/commercial lot with a total floor area of 400.00 m² single lofty warehouse, 100 m away from Quezon City General Hospital covered by TCT Nos. 233907, 233908 and 233909	PHP8,000,000.00
Lot 3, Blk. 3 Sampaguita St., South Green Park, Phase 5, Paranaque City	217.00 m2 residential lot with 107.30 m² floor area and 30.00 m2 carport covered by TCT No.153473	PHP2,300,000.00
#2685 Sandejas St., Bgy. 729, Zone 79, Malate Manila	155.40 m2 residential lot with a total floor area of 128.14 m² single storey improvement covered by TCT No.196217	PHP3,000,000.00
#8 St. William St., Cubao, Quezon City.	740 m2 lot area with three(3) residential apartment with an aggregate floor area of 360.55 m² covered by TCT No.7593 (walking distance from Q.C Immaculate Concepcion Church)	PHP10,000,000.00
Agua Monte Heights, Barrio Tagpos, Binangonan, Rizal	Thirty one (31) vacant parcels of land situated along Binangonan Provincial Rd. at 30.00 to 65.00 square meters	PHP 2,500.00 per sq.m
Bgry. Kaybagal, Sambong Tagaytay City	48,838.00 sq m vacant agricultural lot covered by TCT No.T-5750	PHP4,900,000.00
Lots 7 & 8 Manila Southwoods, Bgry. Cabilang Baybay, Carmona, Cavite	Aggregate area of 856.00 m2 of two adjoining vacant residential lot covered by TCT No. T-644834 and T-644835.	PHP5,136,000.00
Don Celso S. Tuason Ave., Valley Golf Subd., Brgy. Nagpatong, Antipolo City	A 1,992.00 sqm vacant parcel of land covered by TCT NO. N-75002. Classified as residential specifically lying across Valley Golf Club Main entrance gate. 1.6 kms. Away from Ortigas Avenue Extension.	PHP8,000,000.00
Lot 14 Blk 18 Pearl St., Bulacan Heights, Brgy. Pulong Buhangin Sta. Maria, Bulacan	169 m2 residential vacant lot covered by TCT No. T-284797 (M)	PHP340,000.00
Lot 44 Blk 3 Penny Lane St. cor. Nightingale Drive cor Pelican Point Valley Golf Subd., Brgy. Nagpatong Cainta Rizal	2,313 m2 residential lot covered by TCT No. R-10764 located in an exclusive subd	PHP9,252,000.00
Brgy. Matimbubong and Malpampang, San Ildefonso, Bulacan	Residential lot with an agg area of 4,400 m2 covered by 24 TCTs.	PHP 1,500.00 per sqm
Brgy. Longos, Pulilan Bulacan	Residential lot with existing residential improvement w/ an area of 5,231.00 m2 covered by TCT No. T-180775	PHP8,500,000.00

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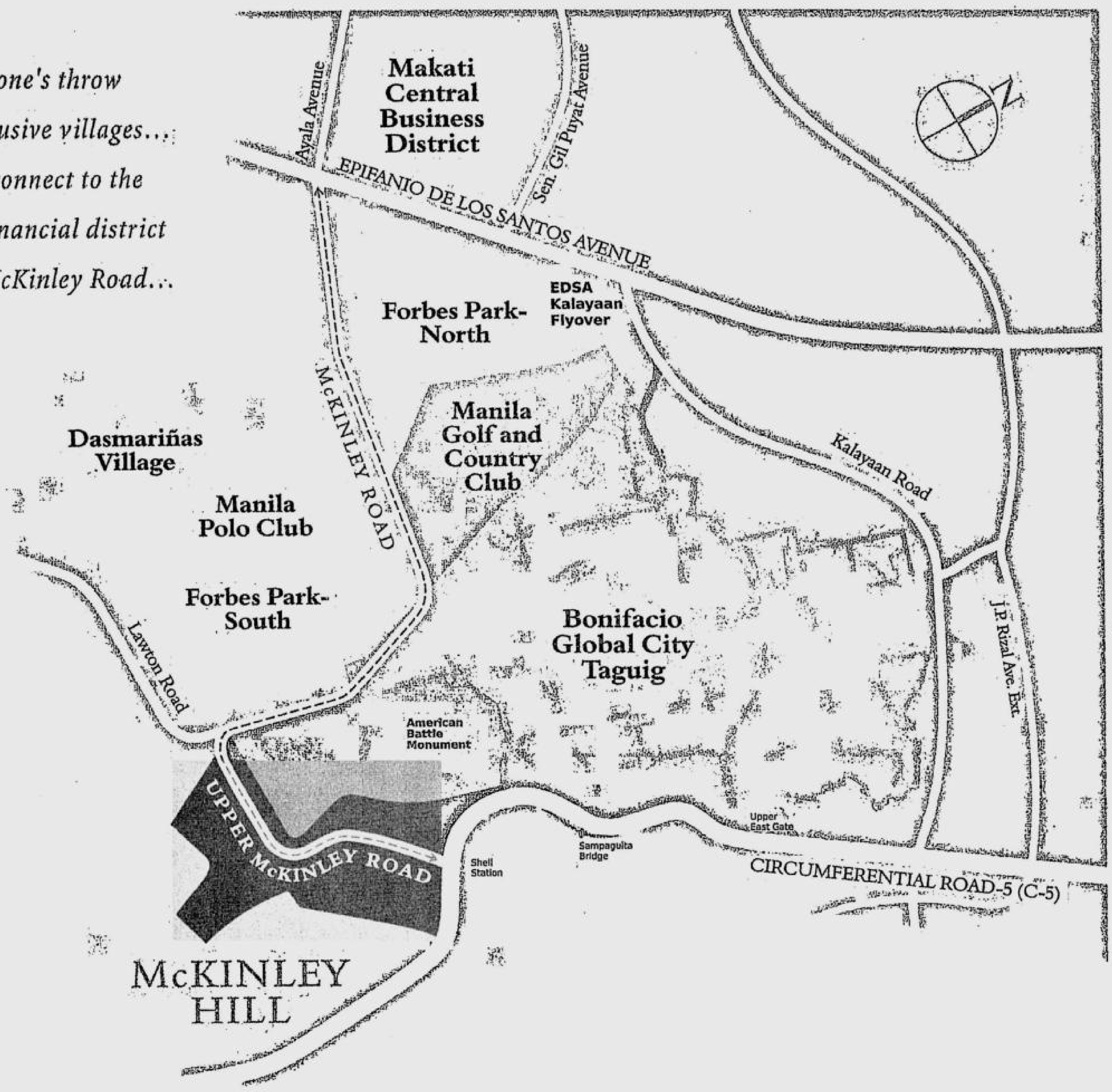
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Beyoncé: A true star

Story on page C3

BEYONCÉ with Tommy Hilfiger

The sizzling multi-Grammy performer is even more beautiful in person, with a disarming, warm smile and a shy, little-girl-like demeanor

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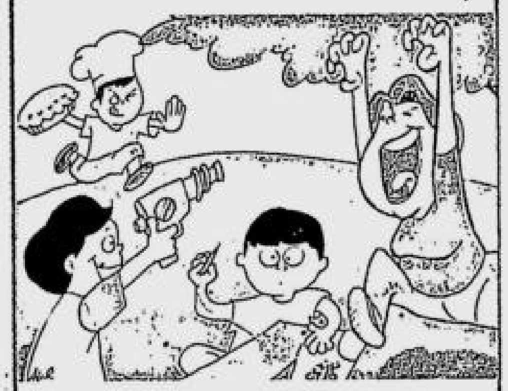
WOMEN of substance /F1



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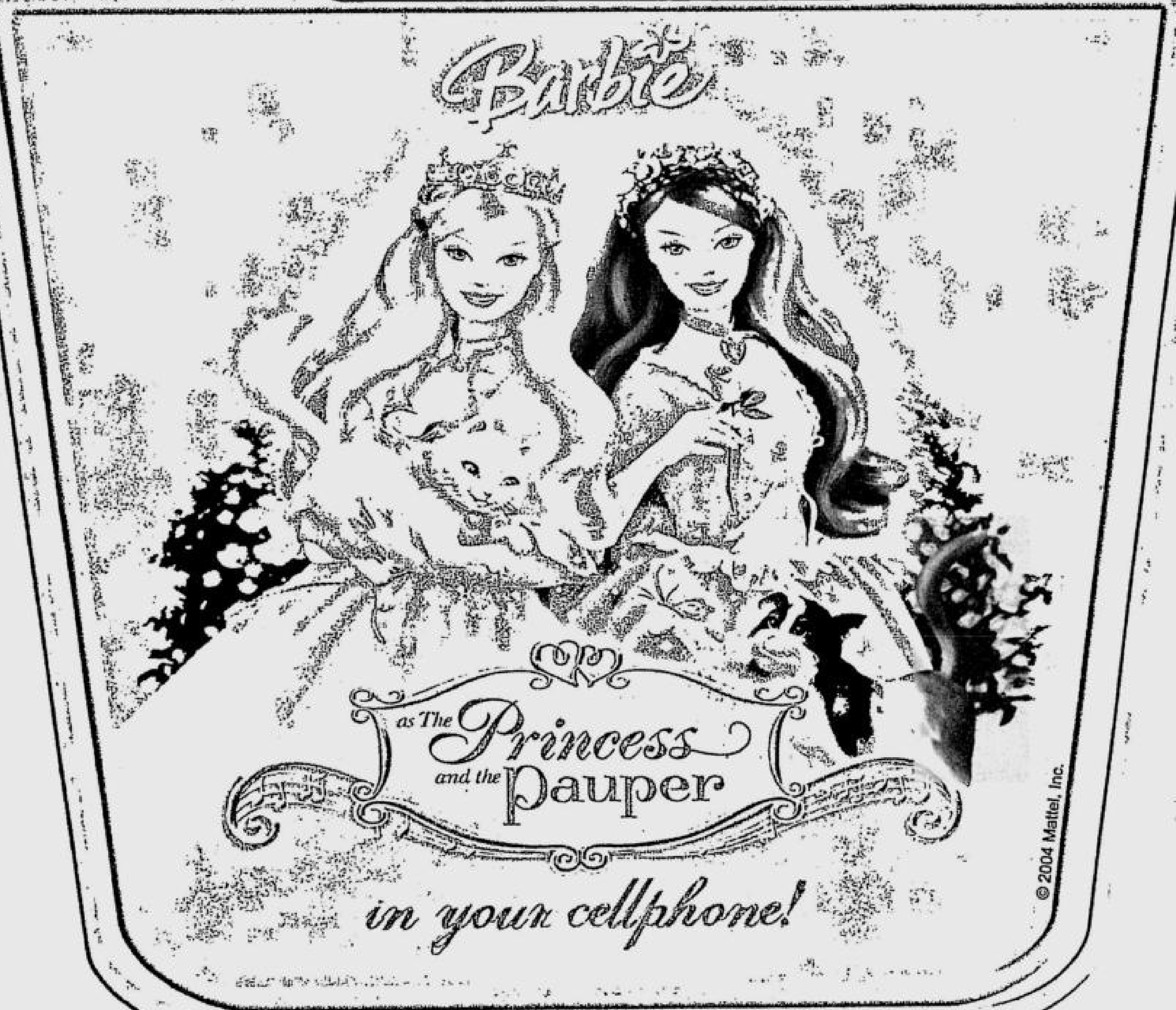

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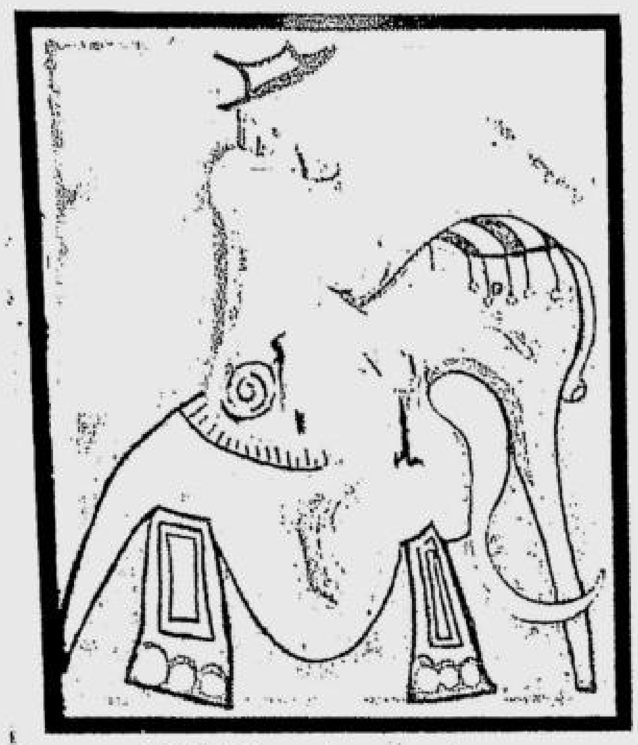
ALEXANDRE CHARRIOL

ENCOUNTERS

2004

A Charriol



The scion of the luxury watch house is in Manila to exhibit color-rich canvases

AN ENCOUNTER with artist Alexandre Charriol

MANILA MODE. Casual finds him wearing short-sleeved tee and black slacks by Calvin Klein and Ardillion belt from Charriol.

This Charriol paints

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

IN CASE you can't make it to the last day of French-American painter Alexandre Charriol's exhibit at the Ayala Museum today, you can still have a chance to see the man and his works up close and personal. "Encounters," his first one-man show in Manila, will continue its run tomorrow until Wednesday at the Gallery of the Peninsula Manila.

Better bring your cameras, ladies, as the boyishly handsome artist promises to grace the opening night. For serious art collectors, however, we advise you not to dillydally, as Charriol's paintings have been selling fast. His newfound fans have snapped up 17 of his 20 paintings barely a day after his show opened at the Ayala Museum.

The artist, who has had the chance to exhibit his works in New York, London, Sydney and Hong Kong, is amazed at the warm reception his art has been getting from Filipinos. The success he's been enjoying so far in Manila is unprecedented.

"I'm very happy that Filipinos seem to appreciate my art and have taken it to a new level," says Charriol, 25, who cites such painters as Basquiat, Picasso and Matisse among his influences. "They're probably fond of colors and the humor."

If the success of the show is any indication, it won't take long for Charriol to find buyers for his second batch of paintings.

Either Filipinos love his art—which has been variously described as bright, colorful, energetic, humorous and interactive—or they can't seem to have enough of him and his good looks.

Pedigree

Perhaps his pedigree also helps. After all, he's the son of Philippe Charriol, founder of the French luxury brand of watches, jewelry, leather goods and fashion accessories that carries the family's name.

"Maybe that helps," he smiles shyly. "A good name never hurts."

Don't expect him, however, to join the family business anytime soon. Unlike most scions of prominent families, Charriol does not feel any pressure. On the contrary, his parents have given him free rein to pursue his passion for painting, which he "discovered" at the late age of 17.

"I was never into art until one day, out of boredom, I picked up some pad and color pencils and started to draw," he says. "Everything evolved from there."

Nor does Charriol feel the weight of living up to such an illustrious name. If anything, he sees it more as an advantage, as it motivates him to give his very best in everything he does. It opens doors and, if the warm response to his exhibit is any indication, makes other people more receptive to what he says and does.

"My family has been very supportive," he says. "They've asked me many times to join them, but they know this is what I want to do. I don't think I'll ever drop my art because I can always do both [paint and join the family business]. But right now, I want to give 100 percent of myself to my art and give myself a chance to succeed."

Older sister Coralie is one of the company's bag designers and the chief publicist. Alexandre helps in a limited capacity as a consultant.

"I'm not completely out of it," he says, "but they always make it a point to ask my opinions."

Although most of his views are art-related, Charriol can't see himself designing jewelry pieces some day. He finds the medium too small, its requirements too delicate. Painting will always be his chief form of expression.

"I like to paint big," says Charriol, who studied at Tufts Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Parsons School of Design. "I usually paint on canvas using mixed media, primarily acrylic and pastel."

Model

He doesn't mind occasionally posing for pictures, though, something he and Coralie have been exposed to ever since they were kids. They had no choice as their mom, Annick, is a photographer. Alex also dabbled in modeling as a child. In fact, when he was 19 he signed up with an agency in New York to give modeling a try. It wasn't the call of fame that lured him, but the chance of earning "easy money." He never had his chance to debut on the catwalk, as he became too preoccupied with his art.

"Besides," he adds, "It's really not my field." But for INQUIRER Lifestyle, he didn't mind slipping into the latest clothes from Diesel, Kenneth Cole and Calvin Klein.

"Now I have a problem," he says good-naturedly as he was coaxed constantly to keep his tummy in during the shoot. "I'm open to doing other things to advance my art."

Don't be surprised if Charriol looks a little darker tomorrow compared to his pictures. He recently had a brief R&R in Boracay with a friend. Not a girlfriend, for the benefit of the curious and those who have been bewitched by the Frenchman.

"I have many girlfriends, one per block," he winks. "Kidding aside, I just got out of a two-year relationship and I'm not looking for anything serious right now."

And what will make him put down his brush and easel, if only temporarily?

"It won't be an easy one," he says, "as my ideal girl must be self-motivated, determined, organized, humorous, elegant and beautiful. I never set boundaries. If the chemistry is there, I guess I will roll with it."

That means Filipinas have a likely chance of capturing Charriol's heart.

But they better be wary of what they say, as this foreigner knows a smattering of Filipino. He and Coralie were partly raised by Lita Alberto, a Filipina housekeeper, as the family traveled and lived in various parts of the world.

Aside from English, he's fluent in French and understands some Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese and, thanks to Alberto, Filipino.

Charriol says Filipinos are hardworking, kind and loving people who can adapt easily to change. Alberto is still with the family, and is now based in London. She has also learned how to speak French. The Charriol kids now live most of the time in New York.

"I speak 2½ languages," he beams. "I've been working on my Tagalog ever since I arrived." Don't bother coaching him on the unprintable words. Already he knows most of them by heart.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

NO TIME FOR LOVE. The artist wears an Actor Tonneau watch from the Charriol collection.

SHADOW DANCING. He goes rugged in brown long-sleeved top and jeans, both from Diesel. Tod's moccasins and Charriol Columbus ring and bangle are model's own.

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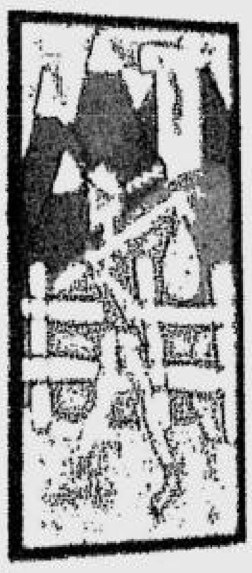


UP, UP AND AWAY. The artist shows up at the Ayala Museum incognito in violet jacket, yellow shirt and pair of jeans, all from Diesel. The black leather messenger bag is from Charriol.

ROOTED. He savors the setting sun in a long-sleeved shirt and khaki pants by Calvin Klein.

CONNECTED. He keeps in touch with family and close friends wherever he goes. Striped shirt and black slacks by Kenneth Cole

A Charriol

Beyoncé: A true star

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

WHEN I was informed I was going to meet and have an exclusive interview with **Beyoncé** and **Tommy Hilfiger** (for the INQUIRER and Tatler), I thought it was an invitation too good to refuse.

Not only because it was set in New York City, but also because I would come face-to-face with one of international fashion's front runners and his current muse, the most celebrated pop diva of her generation. It would be a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Months before I was to leave for the interview, I told my friends about it and some even asked if they could carry my bags so they could meet her. Beyoncé has such a hold on this generation's psyche with her beauty, body, incredible voice and dance moves. (Who can really dance in those four-inch heels?)

Larger-than-life fame

At 23, this singer and actress has been catapulted to larger-than-life, one-name status. She has sold millions of records and performed to sold-out stadiums. She is currently working on the latest Destiny's Child album, which will have its worldwide debut in November, as well as filming the much-awaited remake of "The Pink Panther" in London, with **Steve Martin**.

As if that's not enough, she is also busy preparing for an upcoming clothing line with her mom, and being the face of her own signature fragrance from Tommy Hilfiger called True Star.

For the launch, Tommy and Beyoncé first flew to the island of Mustique in the Caribbean, then to London and the United States. Over a hundred press people from South America, Asia and the United States were invited to the launch, which took place in an art gallery that was transformed into an all-white lounge café/bar.

Before Beyoncé was introduced, a TV ad was played which had her singing à cappella Royce's "Wishing on a Star." Then she walked in, resplendent in a white tank top and long skirt, with matching major bling-blings that seemed to compete with her stellar presence. She and Tommy spoke and introduced the fragrance to a captivated audience. Afterward, they gamely mingled and partied with the crowd.

The next day was my scheduled one-on-one interview, and it was done in Tommy's head office, near Bryant Park. His office is a five-story building that reeks of a blend of Old World and modern elegance. I was accompanied by **Sharyn Wong**, Estée Lauder and La Mer's general brand manager for Asia.

I first shook hands with Tommy. Then, from the corner of my eye, I spotted her. Beyoncé was even more beautiful in person, with a disarming, warm smile and a shy little girl-like demeanor. She apologized for the plate of tuna sandwich before her but since she hadn't had lunch no apology was needed. She was definitely svelte, with curves and hips would make **J.Lo** jealous! She was simply flawless and hot!

Power and charisma

Tommy said he decided to launch a new women's fragrance about a year ago to keep up with fashion trends, and he had Beyoncé in mind from the beginning.

"I met Beyoncé many years ago, when she was just starting out, and even then you could not deny her talent and her star quality. I wanted her because for me a true star is someone with lasting power, someone who is original and with lots of star charisma. I find all of those qualities in her," he said.

True Star, the resulting scent, was personally approved by Beyoncé. She said she had 946 different notes and scents to choose from before she and Tommy agreed on this final product.

"The scent is really very individualistic and very sexy. What I like about it is, it's very elegant and sensual at the same time," she said.

Packaging the scent was another matter. "We wanted to take Beyoncé and really show her in a way she had not been seen before by consumers and her fans. So when we told her we wanted something more intimate and casual, she was all for it. The [ad] photos show her just having some time for herself at home," explained Tommy.

Asked about her future plans, Beyoncé said her biggest dream is to do a big musical. "I love to dance, I love to act, and to combine both and match them with costumes would be amazing."

Her last words about True Star? "I am just honored to have such an opportunity, and I love that I did it because it smells really great and I'm sure everyone will love it!"

She wants to eat 'adobo'!

After the interview, I had a chance for a photo-op with Tommy and Beyoncé. I asked her the obligatory "when are you coming to the Philippines" question. Her answer? "I am dying to go to the Philippines. I want to taste *adobo*!"

I was so shocked with her response! So I quickly asked her where she had heard of Filipino food.

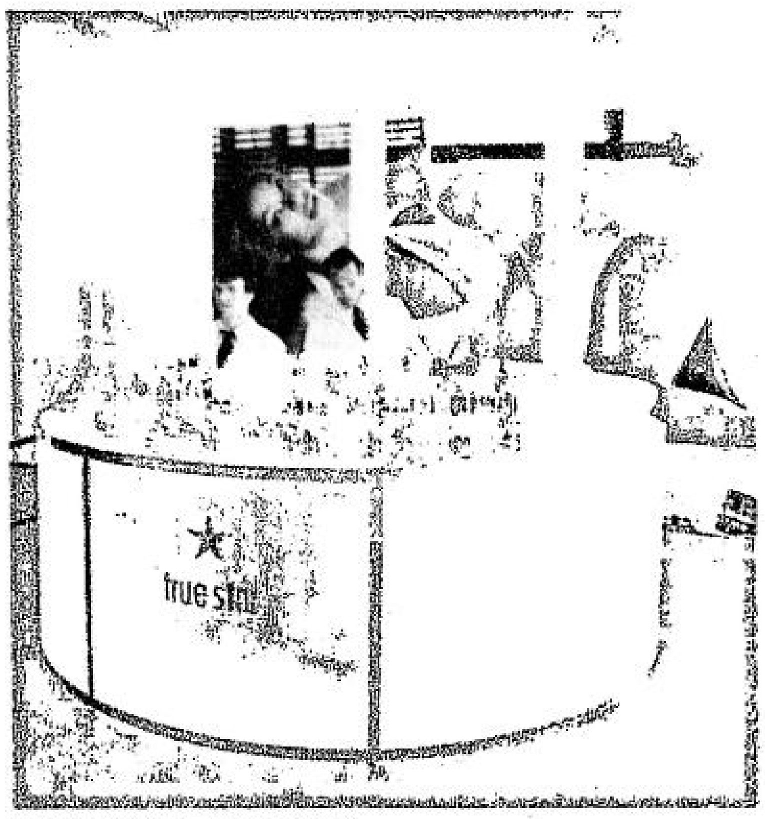
"I have heard so much about the Philippines from my makeup artist, **Mally Roncal**. She is my dear friend and she talks about the Philippines so much. You must meet her, she is actually here!" she said.

Tommy interjected, "After this, I will introduce you to her."

As I was leaving, Tommy whispered in my ear, "Can I speak with you?" Wow, my heart jumped and my mind raced. Was he going to ask me to model for him (some people can dream, no?), or better yet, work for him?

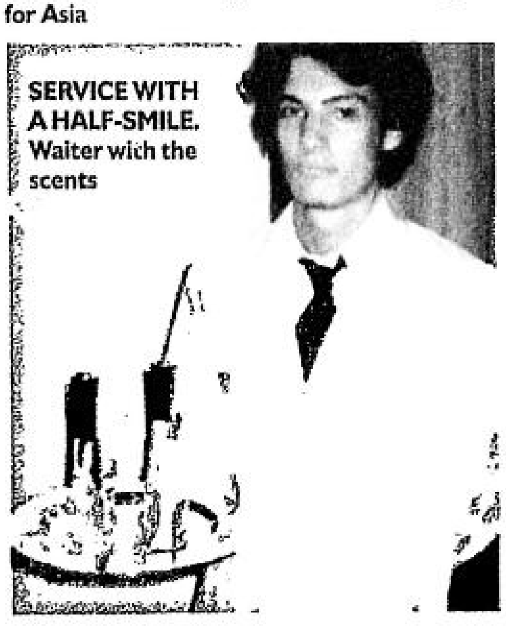
Next week: What Tommy Hilfiger wanted from me. And meet one of New York's most sought-after makeup stylists, who happens to be a Filipina!

True Star perfume, body and bath line are available at Rustan's Department Store.

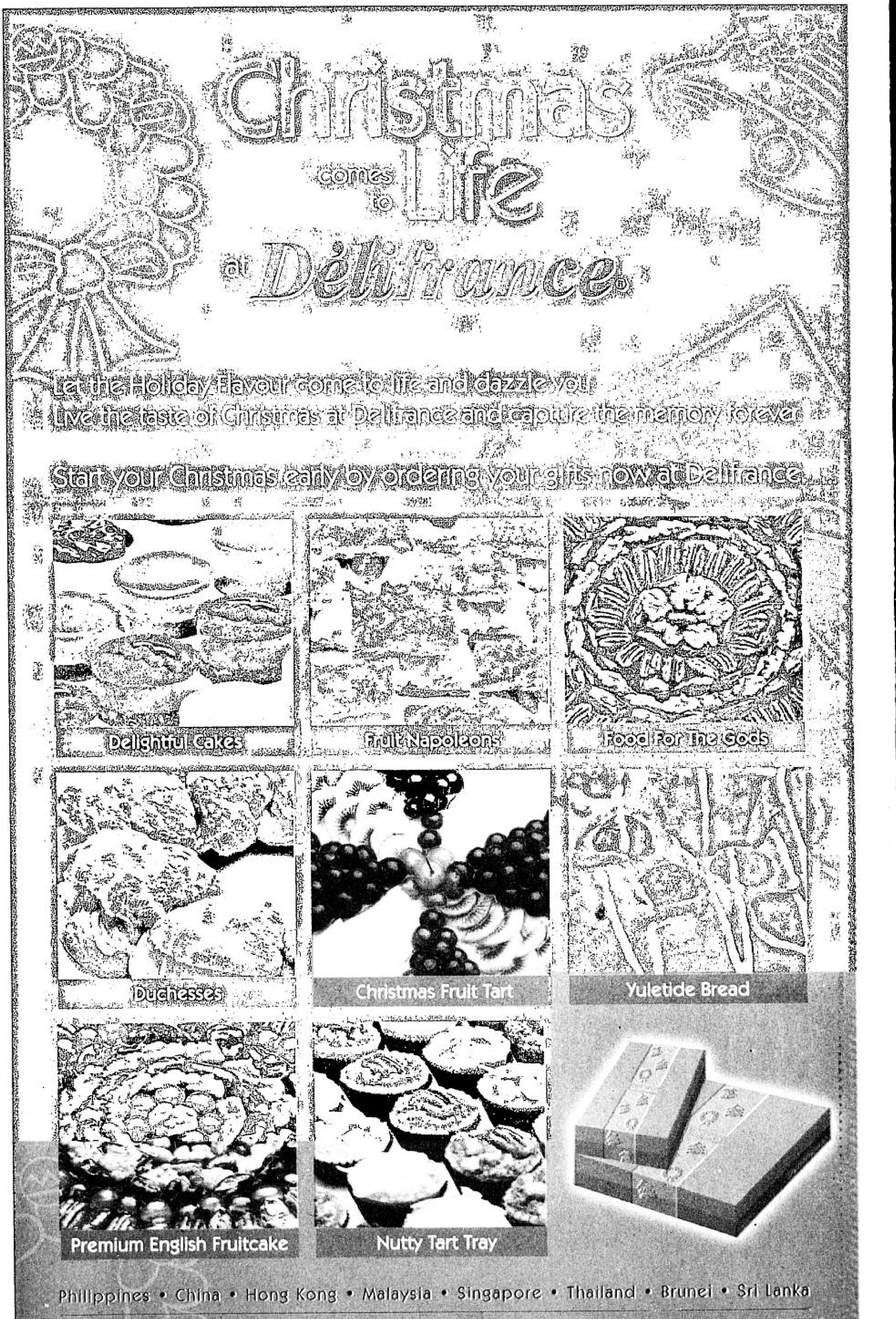


THE MARTINI bar at the launch

THE AUTHOR with Sharyn Wong, Estée Lauder and La Mer's general brand manager for Asia



SERVICE WITH A HALF-SMILE. Waiter with the scents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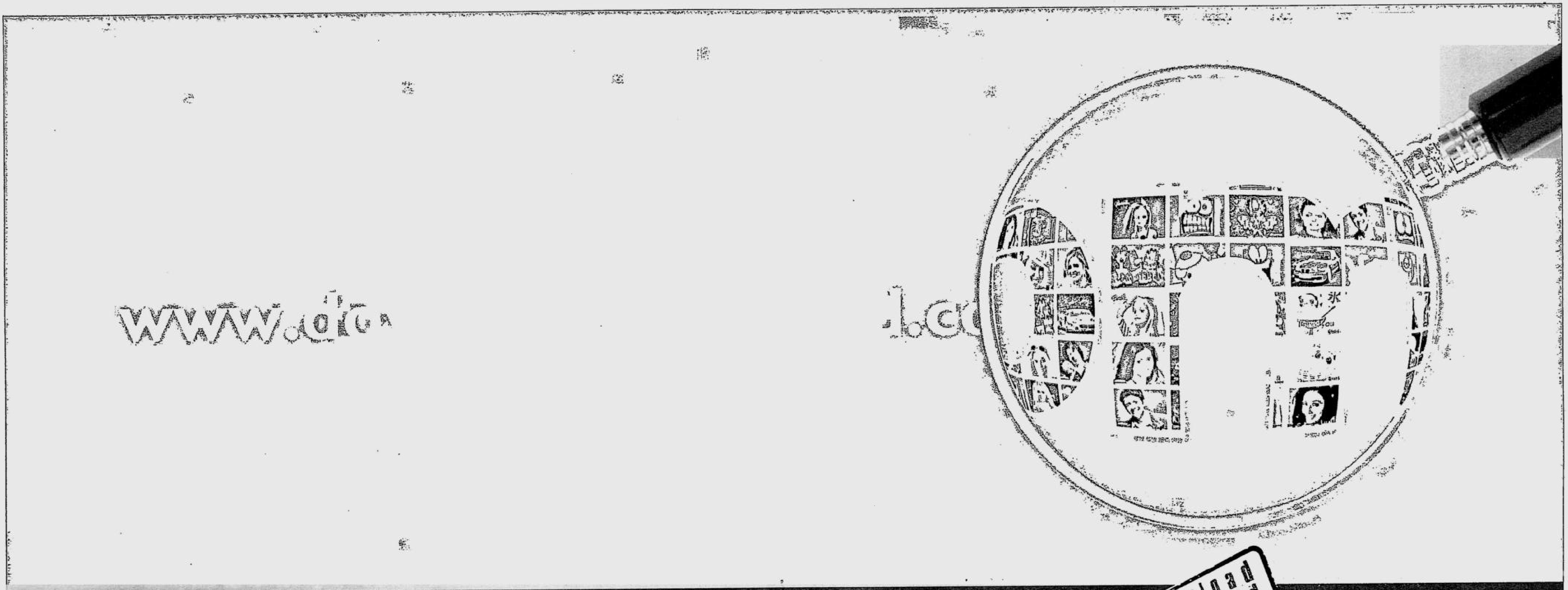

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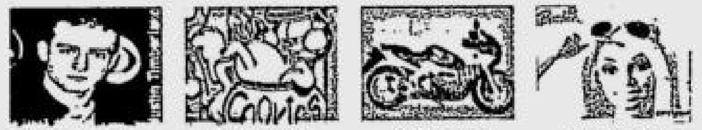
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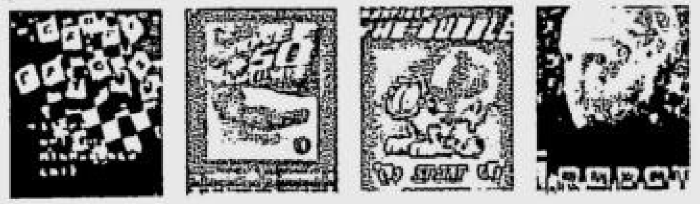

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BRATZ dolls and a Barbie Doll REUTERS

They're back!

The Hot Dozen list is an annual forecast of which toys will be the most popular and hardest to find this holiday season

NEW YORK—Retro toys like a Ms Pac-Man video-gaming package and the 1980s favorite Cabbage Patch Kids made the "Hot Dozen" list released recently by Toy Wishes magazine.

The list is the magazine's annual forecast of which toys will be the most popular this holiday season—and the hardest to find.

"Hot Dozen" stalwarts, fashion doll Barbie and muppet Elmo, and an educational video game system also made the cut.

The list was unveiled as part of an event hosted by the Toy Industry Association in New York, with about 60 manufacturers in booths previewing holiday products.

Reporters, toy experts and some executives milled through the crowded showroom, and about a dozen "kid demonstrators" showed the toys in action.

Nicole Morsen, a 12-year-old showing portable electronic devices, said her favorite items at the show were the Bratz fashion dolls by MGA Entertainment.

"You can change their clothes and feet. Right now, I like them more than the others," she said.

The Bratz Dance N' Skate Club landed on the list.

Getting a spot on a hot toy list can help propel a smaller company into stardom, and even mega-toymakers like Mattel Inc. or Hasbro Inc. can benefit from the buzz.

"A list like this brings the focus away from some of the issues the industry is facing and puts it on fun, good creative toys," said Jim

THEY'RE BACK/ D6

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2004, Series of 2004. Promo period is from October 1 to November 30, 2004.

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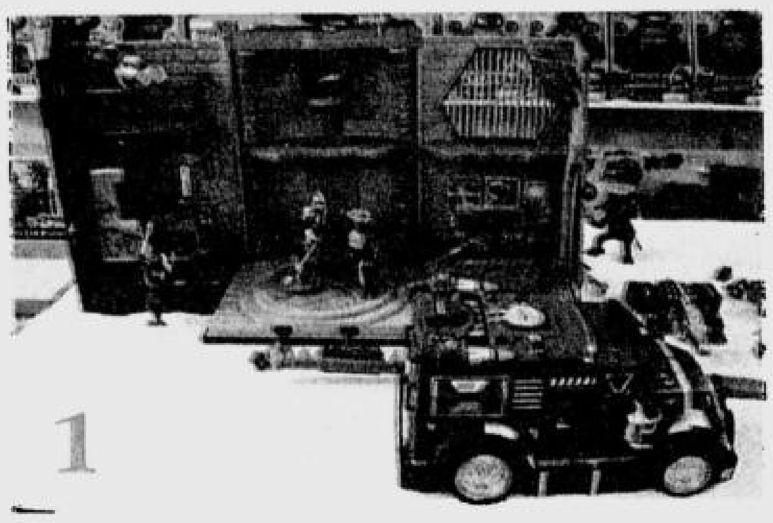
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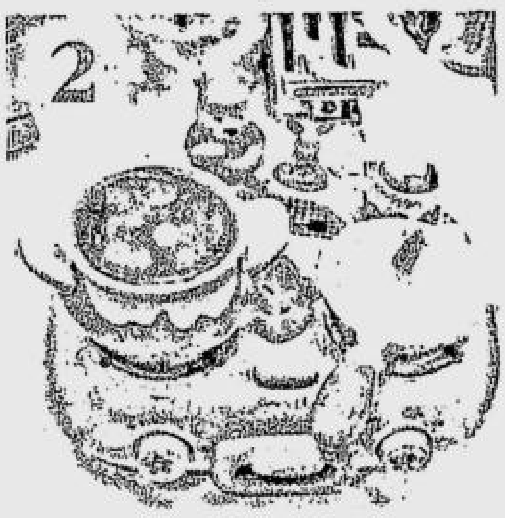
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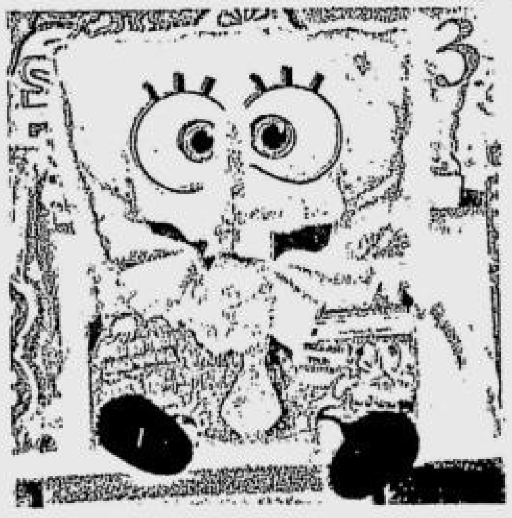
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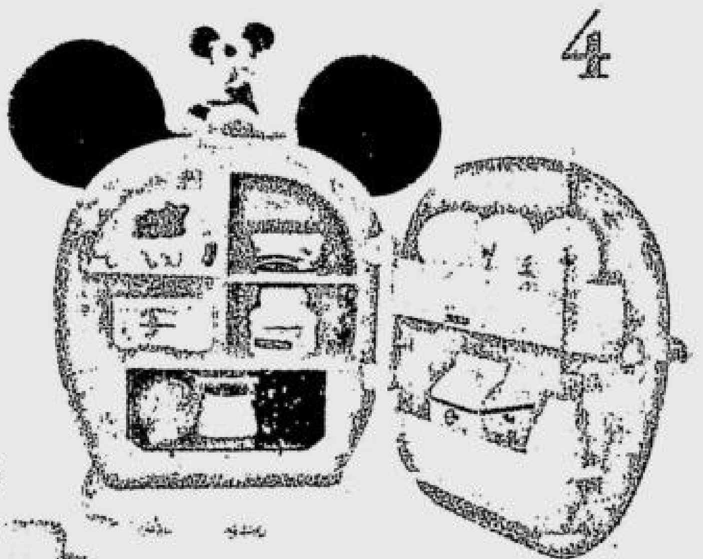
BAN KEE Trading popular toy items: 1. Ninja Turtle Lair Playset; 2. Winnie the Pooh's kitchen playset; 3. Cuddly SpongeBob; 4. Mickey's Fun Time Refrigerator; 5. Adorable Eeyore

MARVIE Samala, Ban Kee Trading marketing manager, with Disney Princess Dancing Cinderella

Toy season is here

Trade fairs show the latest in toy technology and gadgetry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Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Roger Carpio

WE are into the "ber" months, which means the toy-shopping holiday frenzy is about to begin.

This was proven true during the recent toys and gift trade shows held by two big names in the toy industry.

Funtastic Int'l. Inc. and Ban Kee Trading Inc. staged its trade show to launch the latest imported toys, games, accessories and novelty gift items.

At the Garden Ballroom of Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, guests were greeted by a myriad of sights and sounds. Ban Kee's robots, witch dolls, baby aliens and high-tech mini remote-controlled action figures vied for attention.

According to Marvie Samala, marketing, advertising and promotions manager of Ban Kee Trading Inc. (tel. 3719978), the show previewed its 2004-2005 collection of toys and accessories from the world's giant toy manufacturers and licensees.

The one-day exhibit featured an interesting mix of new toys that stood out for their novelty and functionality.

Easily a crowd-drawer was Cy-bug (Kabuto), one of the newest battle toys from Tomy. The custom-built battle action cyber bugs came in three designs, with each design sporting two colors. It moved by flywheel, thus no need for batteries.

Another sensational new product from Tomy was the Microid, the latest mini remote-controlled toys that were representations of fictional ancient guardians of the earth. The toys were small enough to fit in the pocket.

Remember Tamagochi, the lovable tiny pet from cyberspace that became a big hit with millions of kids in the late '90s? These baby aliens from Bandai are making a big comeback in better exciting and high-tech ways.

Children could relive the Tamagochi craze with the new infrared feature of the toy, the newly acquired technology which would enable them to connect instantaneously with other Tamagochi toys. Kids could make friends, play games, exchange gifts and maybe find a partner, and eventually produce "tamababies."

Another new toy explored the magical and mystical world of the occult. It introduced Will, Irma, Taranee, Cornelia and Hay Lin, five young girls with distinct personalities and powers. Collectively dubbed as Witch dolls, they took off from Disney's comic book teenage witch characters. The 7-inch dolls are collectible items.

These new toy lines and brands will be released in the market soon with the latest items from other top-selling brands such as Bratz, Zoids, Gundam and Power Rangers.

Fantastic Barbies

Held at Club Filipino, the two-day Funtastic Int'l. trade show was attended by major toy dealers, department store and toy shop owners and marketing executives and distributors from all over the country.

Now on its fourth year, Funtastic featured an impressive line of its specially designed products, from picture frames of different styles, colors and texture, to rug dolls, stuffed toys, girl's hair accessories, jewelry boxes, cosmetic kits, pillows, bubble machines and colorful figurines.

It also showcased mechanical toys, action figures, hobby toys, model construction, and baby toys and products.

According to Rex Asandas Daryanani, president of Funtastic Int'l (tel. 8711573 to 77), all its toys and gift collections are designed in the Philippines and manufactured in China.

But it was the all-new Barbie gifts and novelty items that were swept off the shelves.

"Lucky for us, we got the exclusive license to create a whole line of Barbie's gift stuff," said Daryanani.

Among the top sellers in the Barbie collection, which is either made of wood and polystone, were Barbie's trinket boxes, mini drawers with Barbie face on top, Barbie clock and Barbie flower drawer pulls.

"Barbie has a captive market, and so it wasn't hard for us to push this to our clients," said Daryanani.

Educational value

With all these exciting toys, do Funtastic and Ban Kee care about their educational value and purpose?

Yes, both do.

For Funtastic and Bankee, toys serve an important purpose. Children will find value and education from a toy or game that provides enjoyment.

"Speaking from a mother's point of view, I believe that through play and games, children will discover and practice important skills. Children learn about shapes, sounds, colors and numbers," Samala said.

She added that with toys, children also learn how to share and get along with other children, improve their manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination.

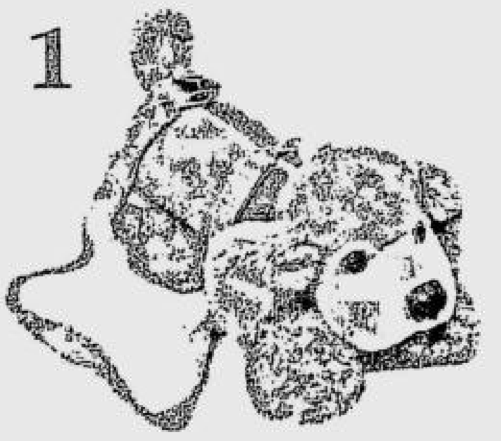
Samala cited the firm's Gundam model kit from Bandai. "It has well-tooled kit parts that can be snapped together," she said. "The pieces are molded in appropriate colors that even impatient kids can end up with a good-looking action figure. Kids' parents can help out create the model. It can be a good bonding time to them."

The toys are safe. "When we design toys or even before ordering a certain toy, we make sure that everything is safe for the users," said Daryanani.

For the company, a good toy should be clean, non-toxic and non-inflammable. It should be large enough not to be swallowed or chewed off.

"We really make it a point that our toys are free from sharp points or cutting edges or splinters that would injure the kids," Daryanani said.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph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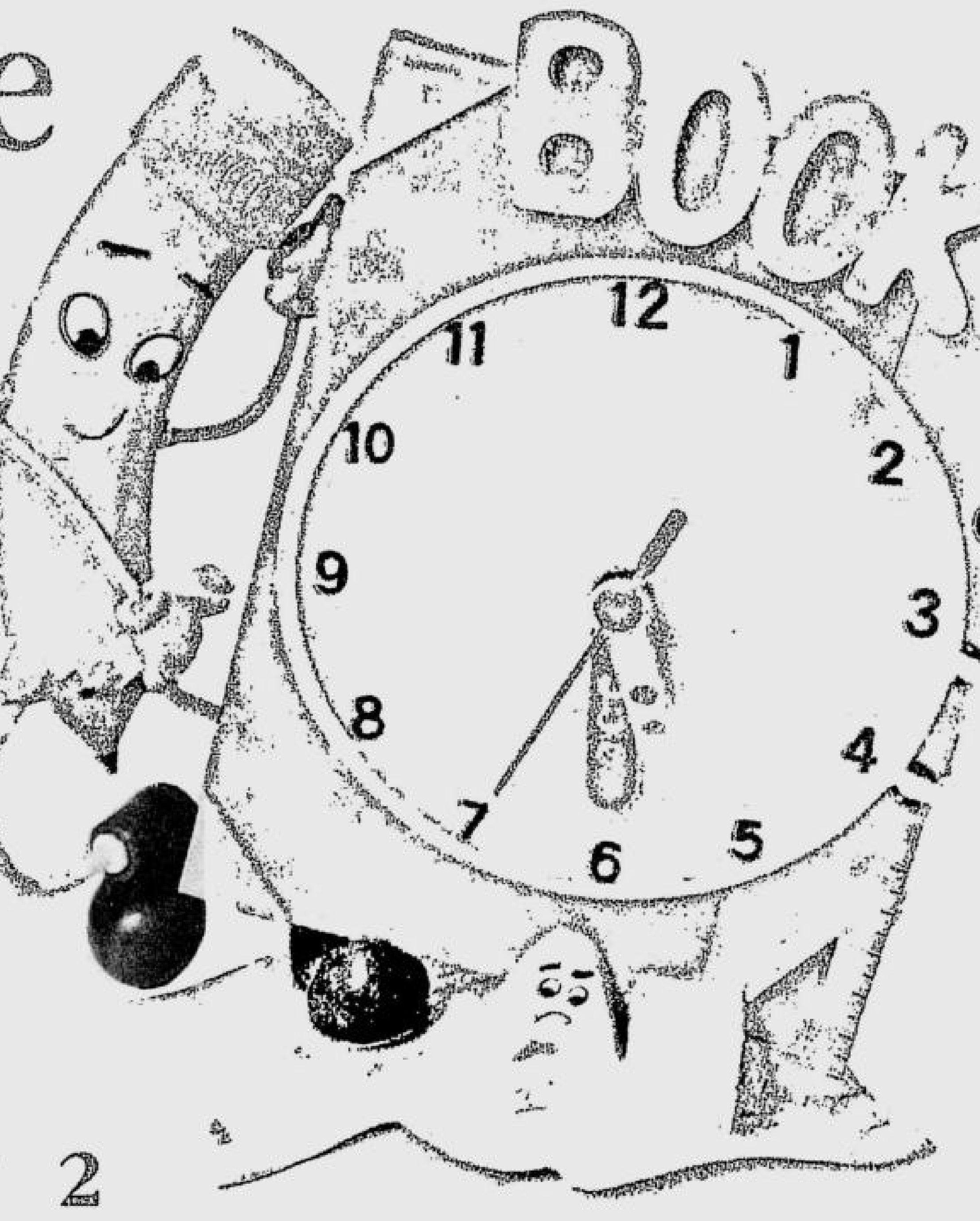
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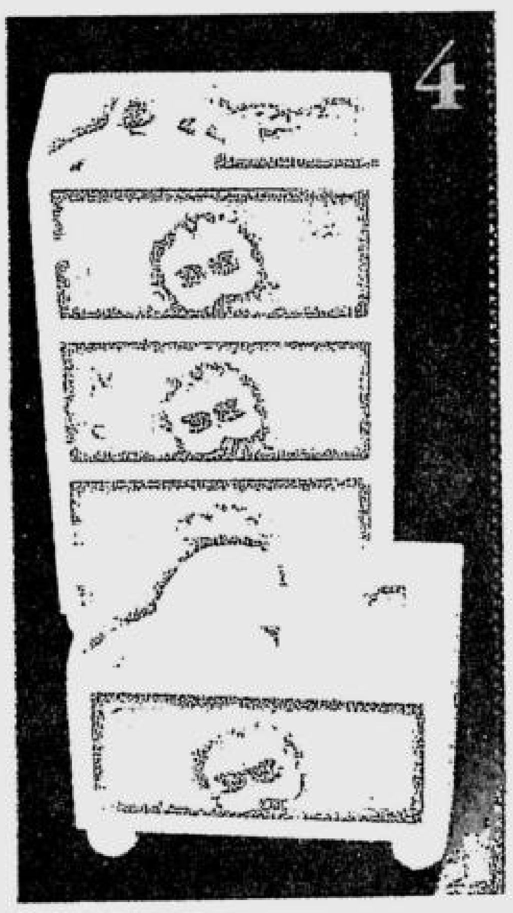
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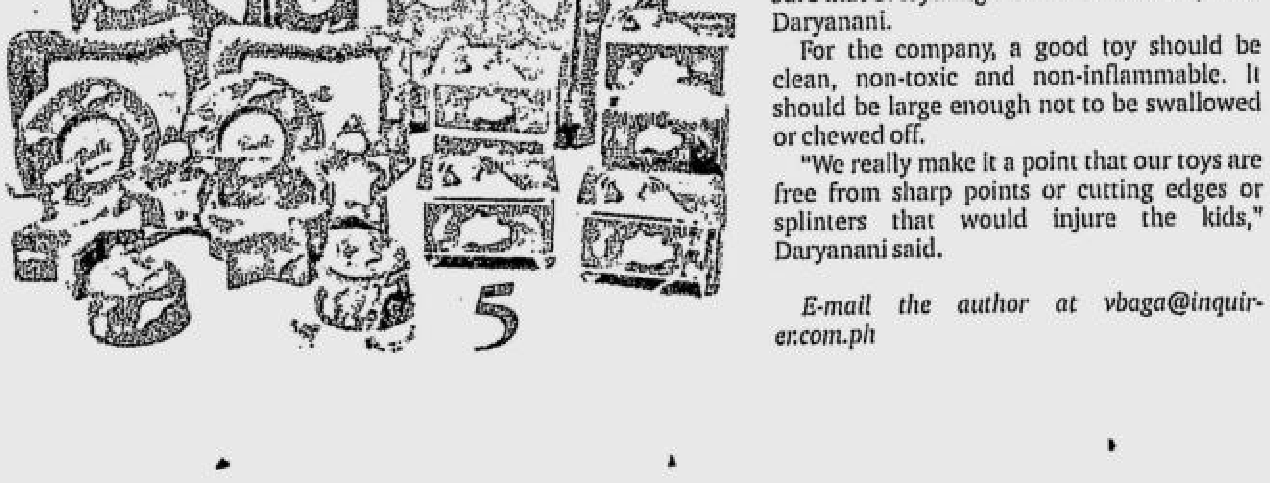
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FUNTASTIC International's best-selling toys and gift items: 1. Dog plush shoulder bag; 2. Funny figure alarm clock for schoolkids; 3. Alarm clock for golf enthusiasts; 4. Barbie mini drawers; 5. Barbie three-fold photoframes, trinket boxes and drawers made of polystone and wood

REX Asandas Daryanani, president of Funtastic International, with adult-size dog plush slippers

UST Arts and Letters grand alumni homecoming to honor jubilarians

A REUNION of alumni of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters (Philets), College of Liberal Arts, and Faculty of Arts and Letters (Artlets) of the University of Santo Tomas will be held on Nov. 30 at the Manila Hotel.

The reunion will mark the ruby anniversary (40th year) of the merger between Philets and Liberal Arts into the present Artlets. Jubilarians—those who graduated in 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1979, 1989 and 1994—will be honored.

The jubilee coordinators are: for batch 1954, Chit Syquia-Almario (0917-6977009); for 1964, Josephine Acosta-Pasricha (8137912) and Roger Obusan (8995697); for 1974, Nestor Cuartero (0917-9605986); for 1979, Peppin Aguilar (0917-9780800) and Emmanuel Lopez (0919-8544071); for 1984, Nick Alviar (0919-5056292) and Clarence Aytona (0918-9039510); for 1989, John Kliatlicko (0917-4369060); and for 1999, Reynald Trillana (0917-5367464).

Call the organizing committee: Lino Baron (7314003/3101 or 4061611 loc. 8220), Hesiquio Mallillin (2446302, 0917-8908168 or 0917-8521739), or Roger Buhay (6471076, 6471270 or 0920-9228091).

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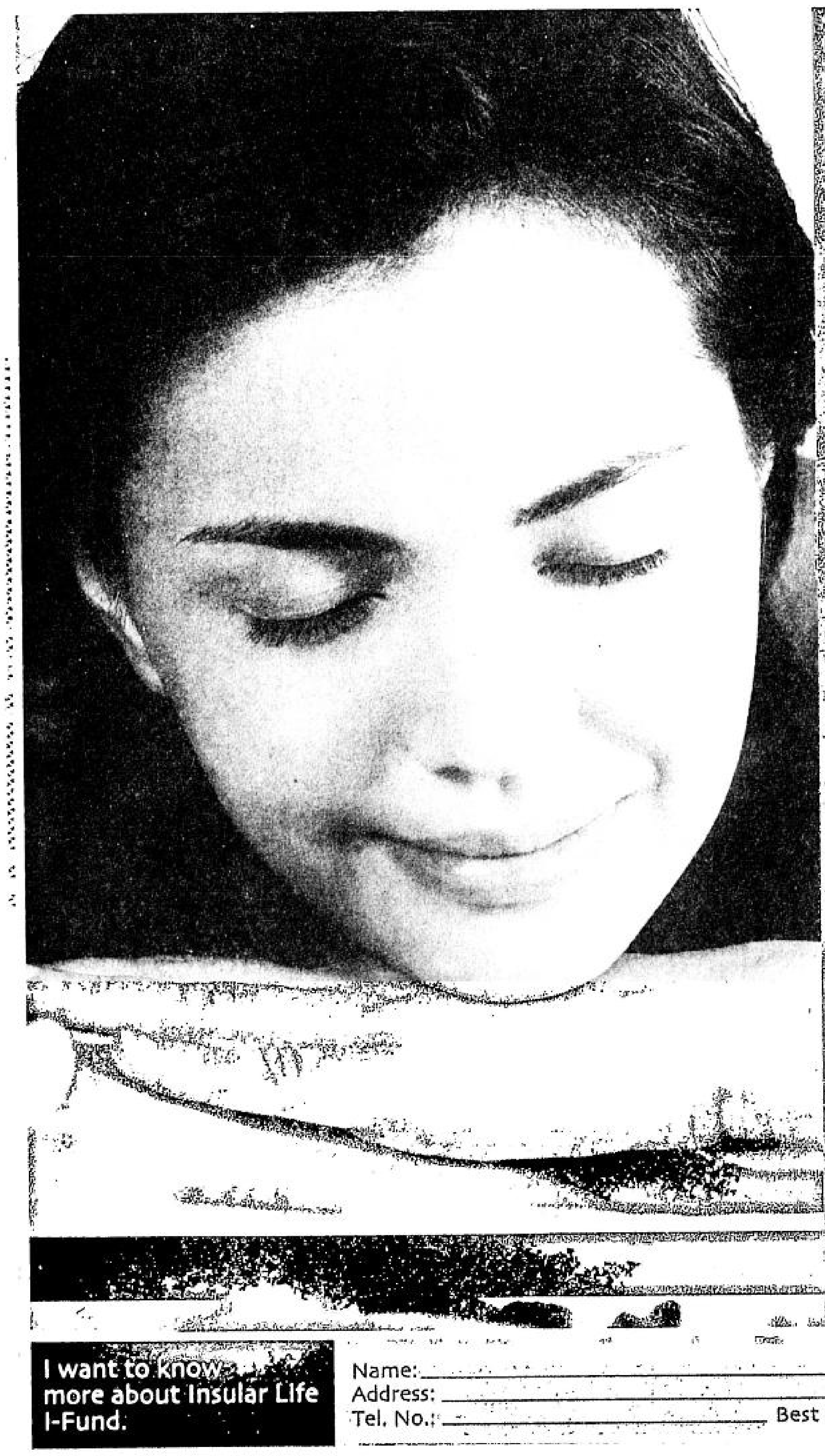

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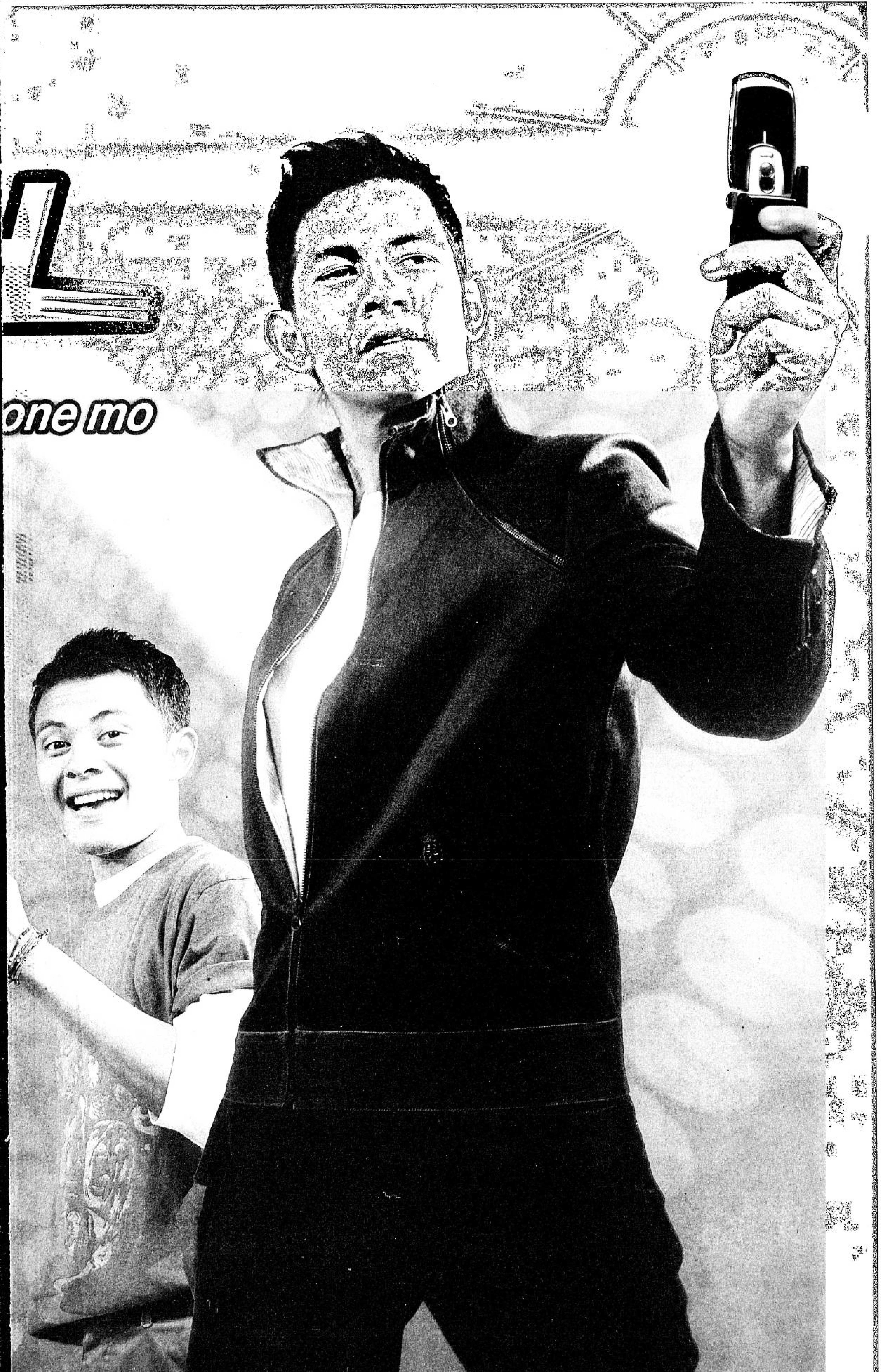
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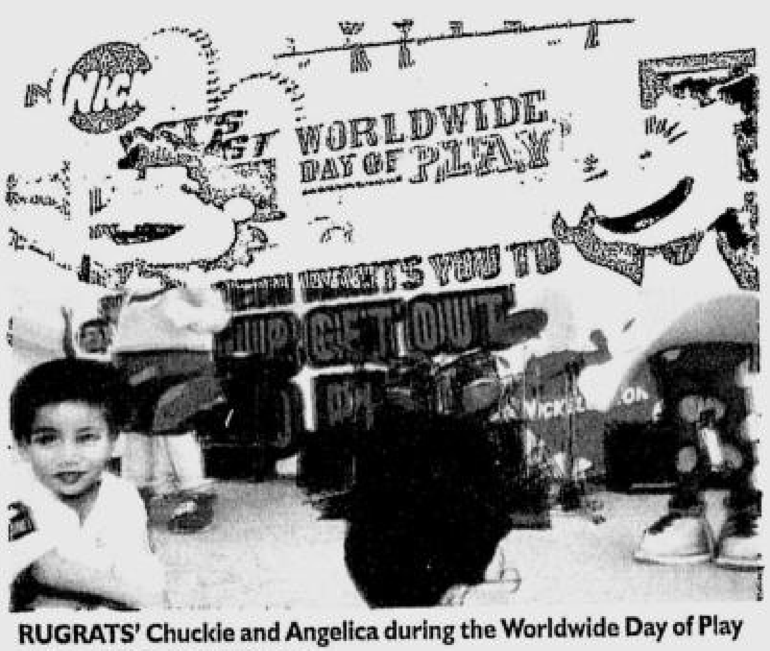


RUGRATS' Chuckie and Angelica during the Worldwide Day of Play at the Adidas Sports Kamp

'No TV day' for kids

THE ADIDAS Sports Kamp in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, was transformed into a dream playground for kids in celebration of "Let's Just Play! Worldwide Day of Play," Nickelodeon's global campaign that promotes physical activity, team spirit, fitness and healthy lifestyles.

In an unprecedented move, Nickelodeon went "dark" for the first time.in its history in selected markets, on Oct. 2, 2-4 p.m., preempting the channel's regular programming to air messages encouraging kids to switch off their television sets and get out of the house to play and have fun.

More than a thousand kids, accompanied by parents and guardians, registered and got a free "Let's Just Play!" T-shirt and other souvenirs. Hosts were Noel de la Rosa and Issa Litton.

At the Rocket Power Park, kids slid, bounced, tugged and raced their way to giant slime-filled inflatables such as the Bungee Run, Slime Slide, Stratus Volleyball, Trampoline Bungee, Velcro Wall and the Slime Dunking Pool. Others joined the obstacle course and The Wild Thornberries Adventure Race, Rock Climbing and skateboarding. Milo Olympians did amazing stunts in the basketball, gymnastics and taekwondo exhibitions. National taekwondo champ Japoy Lizardo demonstrated his winning moves and posed for photographs.

Other kids found their way to Nick's Kicks, Batter Up, Tricks for Nicks, Chalkaholics and The Great Hose Down.

Experts from the National Nutrition Council (NNC) and the Sports Rehab Kamp (SRK) answered questions on food and health in "Fitness for Misfits."

A special concert until 8 p.m. featured Angelica and Chuckie of the Rugrats with some of the hottest stars, like Ella, Karylle, and bands Still Oz and DRT kept the groove pumping.

Nick fans in the Philippines were joined by kids in Singapore, Malaysia, India and the United States in celebrating the Worldwide Day of Play.

The 'Hot Dozen' list

THE MOST desirable toys of the season (in alphabetical order) are:

Balloon Lagoon—A carnival-based board game in which kids collect balloons, flip frogs in a pond and fish for letters in a lake. By Cranium.

Barbie as Princess Anneliese and Erika—Barbie plays two roles in "The Princess and the Pauper." Each doll sings songs from the score of the computer-animated movie, released on DVD and VHS in late September. By Mattel.

Bella Dancerella—A complete ballet studio that includes costumes, ballet accessories and a video. By SpinMaster.

Bratz Tokyo-A-Go-Go Dance N' Skate Club—Bratz fashion dolls hit the retro disco, complete with working speakers, a roller rink and light-up dance floor. By MGA Entertainment.

Cabbage Patch Kids—The popular '80s one-of-a-kind adoptable doll is back. By Play Along.

E-L-M-O—"Sesame Street" character Elmo sings and dances the E-L-M-O, to the tune of the Village People song "YMCA." By Mattel unit Fisher-Price.

InteracTV—Preschoolers watch a special DVD with episodes of shows like "Blue's Clues" and "Dora the Explorer" or "SpongeBob SquarePants" and use a remote control to interact with characters within the episode. By Fisher-Price.

AT THE ripe old age of 45, Barbie was knocked off her perch by streetwise upstart Bratz at the Dream Toys 2004 exhibition. REUTERS

Ms Pac-Man TV Games—A joystick console with classic games, including Ms Pac-Man, Galaga and Pole Position, that plugs into the TV. By Jakks Pacific Inc.

Nitro Battlerz—Customizable remote control cars that race with each other and crash. By Radica Games Ltd.

Tamagotchi Connection—An updated version of the virtual pet with different modes of play, new pets and wireless interaction. By Bandai Co. Ltd.

VideoNow Color—A color version of last year's kid-size personal video player. By Hasbro.

VTech V.Smile—An educational video game system for kids 3-7 years old. By VTech Holdings.

Reuters

They're back!

From page D1

Silver, co-publisher of Toy Wishes magazine. He acknowledged the list helps "feed the frenzy."

Make-or-break time

Toy makers and sellers depend on the holiday season for most of their profits. Roughly 50 percent of toy sales are rung up in the fourth quarter alone, according to The NPD Group, a New York-based market information company.

"It's been a slow toy year. Entertainment and electronics have become a major alternative for children," said Tim Bender, president of educational toy maker LeapFrog Enterprises Inc.'s global consumer group. "LeapFrog can benefit because our products have an electronic element. It will be interesting to see how it plays out."

Last year's holiday season was marked by intense price-cutting among toy sellers. Discounters like Wal-Mart Stores Inc. slashed prices on hot items, and specialty toy stores followed suit.

Competitive pricing was blamed for the bankruptcies of KB Toys and FAO Inc., parent of FAO Schwarz toy stores, leading to hundreds of store closings. Even industry leader Toys R Us Inc. posted weak holiday sales and is in the midst of a company-wide restructuring.

Toy Wishes' Silver said he doesn't expect such a cutthroat pricing environment this year. "We might see it on some isolated items, but I don't think you'll have the slashing of prices and toy wars we had last year," he said. "Vendors and retailers realized that it hurt everyone in the industry."

Tim Kilpin, senior vice president of girls' marketing and design for Mattel, said he still doesn't know what to expect this year, "but I'd like to believe that pricing on toys will be favorable. It's still very competitive out there."

Toy Wishes will help air a televised toy awards show in December. Consumers can vote on their favorite toys on the Toy Wishes (www.toywishes.com) or Toys R Us (www.toysrus.com) websites.

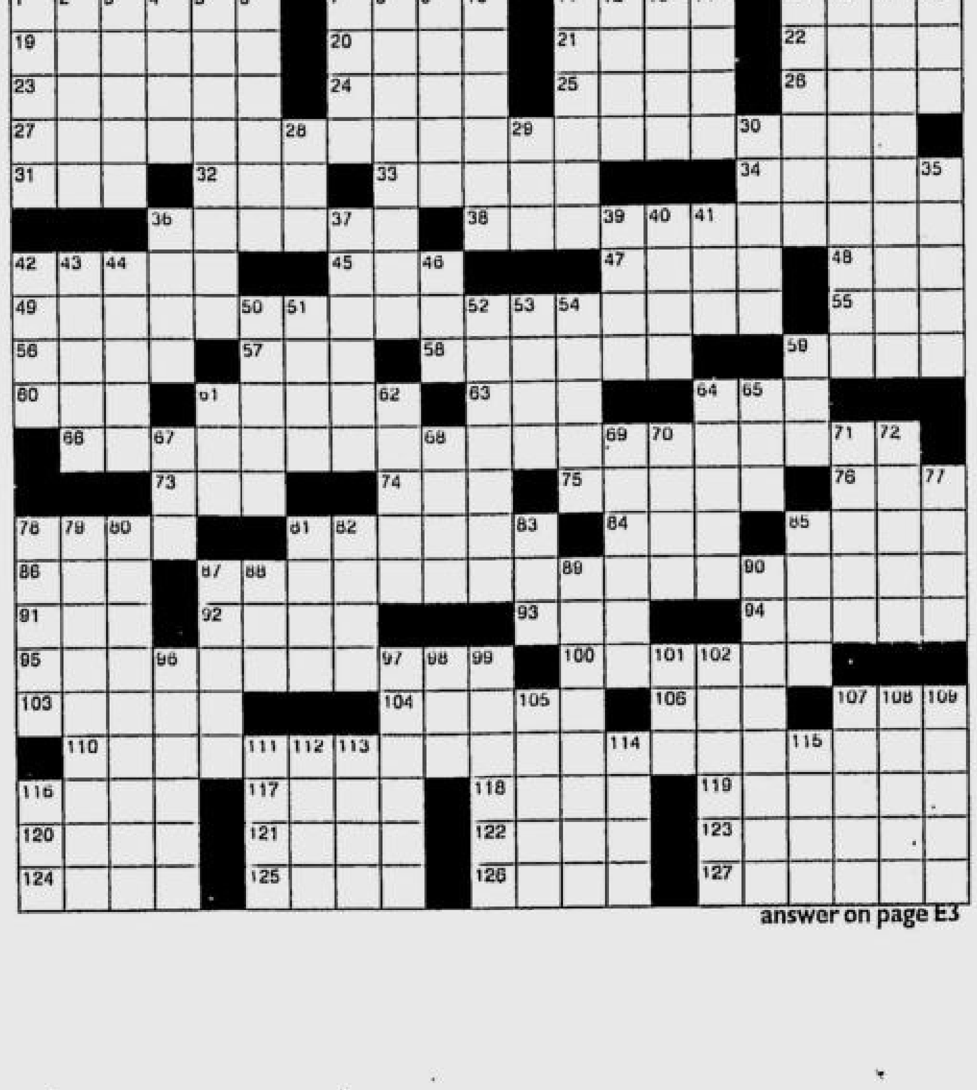
Reuters

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo HISS-TERICAL

ACROSS
1 Saltwater
7 Sudden inspiration?
11 Rudiments
15 ". . . why — thou forsaken me?"
19 Overjoys
20 Q-V linkup
21 Hang loosely
22 Baltic Sea feeder
23 Decide to withdraw
24 "The doctor —"
25 Braving the briny
26 Mother of Zeus
27 Start of a riddle
31 Joyless
32 Stimpy's buddy
33 Carrot unit
34 Showed on TV
36 Funeral tunes
38 Riddle, part 2
42 "Barnaby Jones" star Buddy
45 Actress Vardalos
47 Assistant
48 Actor Erwin
49 Riddle, part 3
55 Gymnast's dream
56 Storyline
57 Moo — pork
58 Holdups
59 Part of N.Y.C.
60 Fa-la link
61 Football coach Amos Alonzo —
63 Chaney of "The Wolf Man"
64 Yoko —
66 Riddle, part 4
73 Charged particle
74 Careless
75 Straight dope
76 Alley- —
78 Change for a five
81 Reverse dive
84 Wrath
85 Corrida charger
86 Singer Torme
87 End of the riddle
91 "Greetings, Gaius!"
92 Simon & Garfunkel's "— Rock"
93 Out — limb
94 Tricked, slangily
95 Start of the riddle's answer
100 Skeleton's hangout?
103 Clarinetist Shaw
104 1983 Streisand musical
106 Actor DeLuise
107 Really relax, slangily
110 End of the riddle's answer
116 Ninny
117 Hero creator
118 Stand up
119 Come forth
120 English composer Thomas
121 Tree ID
122 From scratch
123 Icons
124 Loch — Monster
125 Whirlpool
126 Crop killer
127 10th president's family

DOWN
1 Copies a kitten
2 Main male
3 Assessed
4 Lay — thick
5 Massless elementary particle
6 Book before Job
7 Dismal
8 John Wilkes Booth, e.g.
9 Be a bit too frugal
10 Guru
11 "The Last Frontier"
12 Pear variety
13 Marc Antony's love, briefly
14 Czech, e.g.
15 Dreadful
16 Complies with
17 Small tropical finch
18 Refrain syllable
28 Chang's conjoined twin
29 I, to Hans
30 Alleviating agent
35 Stewed
36 It needs to be paid off
37 Ample
39 Savoir-faire
40 #1 songs
41 Wedding words
42 "Juice" star Omar
43 Underneath
44 Ancient Roman robe
46 Cookout residue
50 — Martin (sports car)
51 Tobacco wad
52 Sent a message to, in a passe way
53 Free-for-all
54 "This — a drill"
59 "— wish!"
61 Cone or Cat lead-in
62 Bitter cold
64 Not one's cup —
65 Japanese drama
67 Ann, to Abby
68 Rajah's wife
69 For the groom's other half
70 Lira replacer
71 Some parts of speech
72 Fellini's "La — Vita"
77 Said "not guilty," e.g.
78 Nebraska Indian
79 Not even once thereafter
80 November events
81 Willing to try
82 Slightly
83 Pi follower
85 Italy's shape
87 Ruses
88 Actor Holbrook
89 Fences in
90 Boris Karloff classic
96 Plane passageways
97 Epitomize
98 Kin of "Psst!"
99 Snare
101 Ingests too much, for short
102 "Amen!"
105 Yours, to Shakespeare
107 Brink
108 Gung-ho
109 Estimate
111 Doing nothing
112 Have to have
113 Happy
114 Pond swimmer
115 Not fake
116 Devotee



answer on page E3

Checkmated at 75

By Eufemia C. Estrada
Contributor

I STARTED writing for a publication at age 50; wrote a weekly cooking column for the defunct Manila Chronicle at 62 (1991) and for the INQUIRER at 65 (1994); had two cookbooks published, one at 68 ("Kusina ni EC," 1997) and the second at 72 ("Baking Made EC," 2001); and now, albeit reluctantly, I am learning to play chess at 75.

I must be what is known as a late bloomer.

I had never ever tried to play the game, which was pure Greek to me. I do crossword puzzles and play Monopoly, Boggle, Scrabble, variety games like Cryptograms, Syllacrostics, Word Seek, Double Trouble etc. But chess? Never.

That is, not until 7-year-old Noel, home afternoons from half-day classes at the Ateneo, picked me, my daily errands done by early afternoon, to be a reluctant sparring partner.

All I knew about the game was the goal was to capture the king. How to go about it was a complex puzzle that Noel valiantly tried to unravel for me. "I will teach you," he assured me.

Noel learned to play chess from his dad at age 6. Here I am learning it from him at 75.

Noel proceeded to teach me to identify the 16 pieces on each side of the board. It took some time before I was able to tell which piece was the king, which the queen, the bishop, the knight—the mnemonic clue for the last being that knights of yore rode to battle on horseback.

Constant reminding

Noel had to remind me constantly that the black queen was always set on a black square, the white queen on a white square, and that the outermost square on the right was white.

The pawn, eight pieces of them, and the two rooks I could easily identify. Imagine if Noel and I were using an American chess set with the pieces all looking like baseball players! Yes, there is such a set, I have learned, being an avid collector of curios.

Noel started by setting up the chess board for me. It was difficult for me to just "copy" his side because of the black queen on a black square rule. I graduated to doing my side on my own by "looking at the book," the DK book on chess Noel's mother had discovered and bought for him. It has since become Noel's bible. He reads it all the time. It's the last thing he reads before going to bed, and it rests beside him, within arm's reach, while he sleeps.

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT G RODRIGUEZ

Teacher gives up

The time came when Noel would no longer teach me. I had to look up the answers to my questions in his chess bible. "Read. Read. Read," he would urge me, turning to the pages of the book where a question would be explained.

"I taught you that yesterday," he'd say in near despair, when I made a pawn capture an enemy piece with a forward move. "Pawns only capture diagonally!" Diagonally! I was impressed this 7-year-old had this word in his vocabulary.

It is with great effort that I remember such details, like only the knight can jump over another piece in a letter L, the king can move in all directions but only one square at a time, while the queen can move in any direction for any number of squares. These, and other confusing moves.

With my haphazard moves I was not proving to be a worthy opponent for Noel. He was running away with most of the checkmates. I was providing him the opportunity to improve his game, but not giving him a chance to learn how to lose—something his summer chess teacher had tried to instill in his chess class.

Finding the right book

I decided it was time I took the game seriously. I searched high and wide for a book for beginners and waited patiently for this year's International Book Fair, where I found the one book for the likes of me—Usborne's "Starting Chess."

Anyone who knows his Usborne knows it's always a good buy. I know because my Usborne book on stamp collecting was a real help in getting me started on the hobby many years ago.

After going through the 32 pages of "Starting Chess," I understand the nuances of the game better. Noel will no longer befuddle me with his castling, pin, *en passant*, fork, skewer, check or queening. No longer will I fall into the trap of a "bad swap," as I have often done in the past.

Hopefully I will hear the end of such "Noelisms" as "Oh no, you can't do that." "That move does not do anything at all." "You didn't see that?" "You're not listening." "You keep forgetting."

Rewards

So what does Noel get from his once- or twice-a-week game of chess with Lola Femy? He gets to hone his game, develop his analytical skills, learn to plan his next move and capture enemy pieces by using such tricks as *en passant*. He learns to store the chess board after a game, one of the conditions I set before agreeing to play with him. And he's learning to be more patient with the elderly's forgetfulness, "because you're old." When he does get impatient (can you really blame him?), he learns to articulate his feelings, "I'm beginning to lose my patience," while squirming in his seat.

What do I get out of it? Bonding time with my grandnephew. And now I'm taking the game seriously. In time, I can add a new feather to my cap.

Perhaps the day will come when Noel will agree to my rewards plan: If I win, I kiss you. If you win, you kiss me. He loves chess but, like most boys his age, he hates kissing.

As I get better at it, Noel will learn to lose and shake hands after a game—win or lose—as his Ateneo chess teacher has taught.

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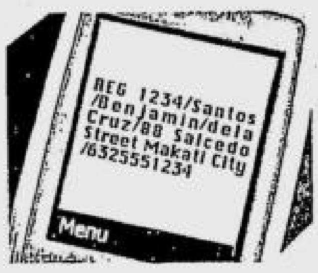

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You will then receive a text message saying that you have successfully registered.

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VIA TEXT

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- Frontliner will send the G-Cash to your beneficiary and give you an acknowledgement receipt (A.R.) for the transfer and an official receipt (O.R.) for the processing fee.

How do I cash-out my G-Cash?
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MONEY TRANSFER
VIA TEXT

How do I send G-Cash to a Globe or Touch Mobile subscriber?

- Just go to any Globe Business Center, Globelines Payment and Service Center or any Authorized G-Cash Outlet that accepts cash-in transactions.
- Fill up G-Cash form.
- Please present a valid I.D. .
- Pay the cash-in fee to the frontliner.
- Frontliner will send G-Cash to your beneficiary and give you an acknowledgement receipt (A.R.) for the transfer and an official receipt (O.R.) for the processing fee.

Using my cellphone, how do I send G-Cash to a Globe Handyphone or Touch Mobile subscriber?

For as long as you have G-Cash in your cellphone, just send the following message: <amount to be sent> <M-PIN> to 2882 + <10-digit number of recipient>

Example: 1000 1234
Send to: 2882917XXXXXXX

How do I transfer G-Cash to my phone?

- Just go to any Authorized G-Cash Outlet which accepts cash-in transactions.
- Show the required identification to frontliner.
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- The outlet will send the G-Cash to your mobile phone number directly.

How do I cash-out my G-Cash?

- Go to a Globe Business Center or any Authorized G-Cash Outlet.

A. CASHING OUT AT A GLOBE BUSINESS CENTER:

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- Present required identification to the frontliner.
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- Frontliner will write down a unique transaction code on the service form.
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  Example: CASHOUT 1000 1234 55558888
- Frontliner will then print an A.R. for the cash-out and an O.R. for the processing fee.
- You will then be given the cash.

B. CASHING OUT AT AN AUTHORIZED OUTLET (mobile phone to mobile phone)

- Fill up a G-Cash form.
- Present required identification to the frontliner.
- Pay the processing fee.
- Frontliner will show you the outlet's authorized mobile number.
- You then send the following message:<amount to be cashed-out> <M-PIN> to 2882+<10 digit number of authorized outlet>
- Frontliner will then print an A.R. for the cash-out and an O.R. for the processing fee.
- You will then be given the cash.

NOTE: Cash-in and cash-out fees will depend on each outlet.

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Text G-CASH to 2882

NOTE: All G-Cash transactions via SMS cost Php1.00.

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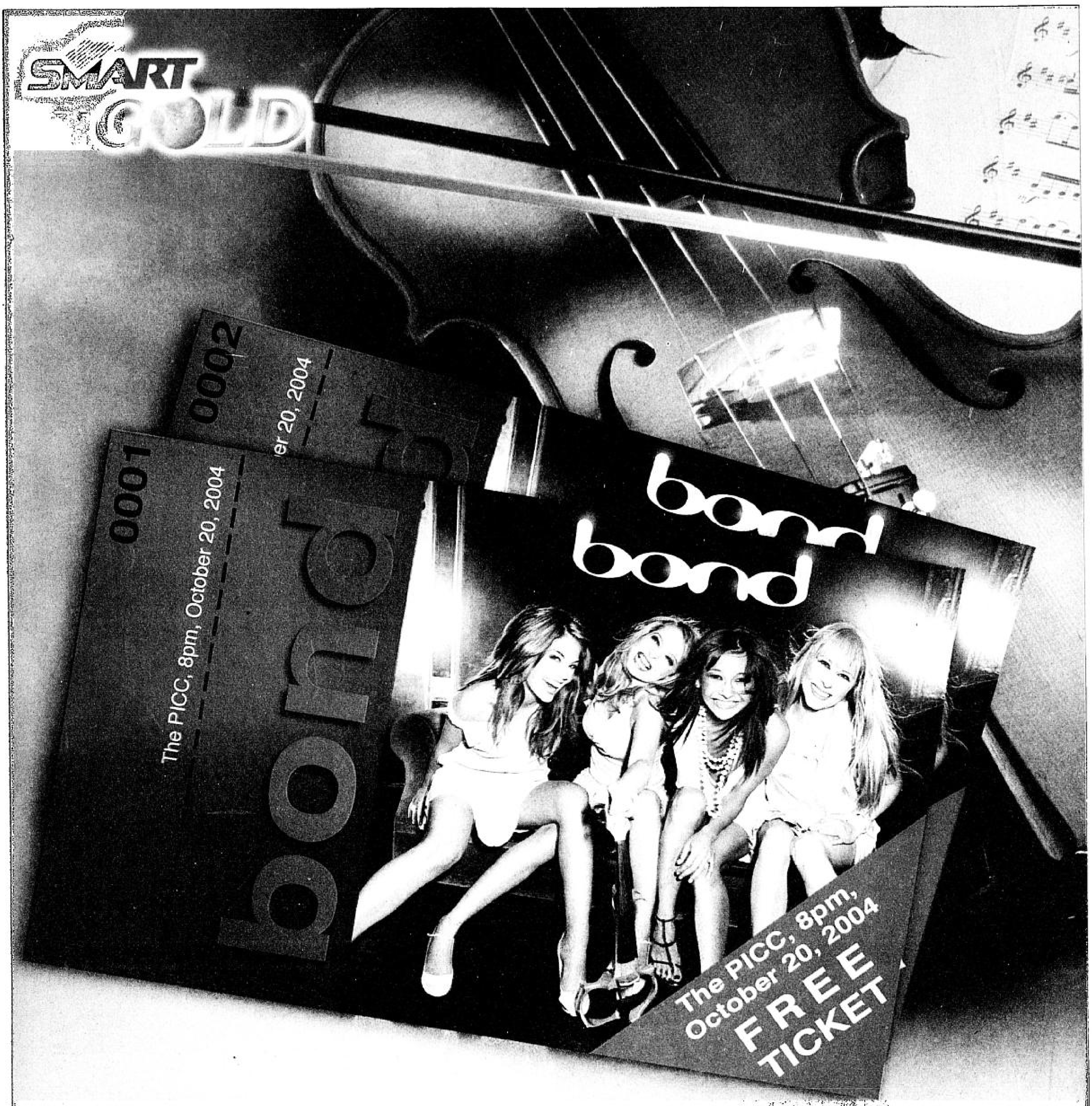
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BONDR4	Dream Star	Bond
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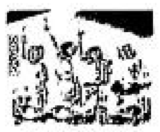
BONDW1


BONDW2

BONDW7

BONDW8

Text **MMS** <keyword> to 209

bond
BONDP1

BONDP2

BONDP3

BONDP4

BONDP5

BONDP6

Text **PIC** <keyword> to 209

Lullaby
BONDL1

I'll Fly Away
BONDL2

bond
BONDL3

Samba
BONDL4

Dream Star
BONDL5

bond
BONDL6

bond
BONDL7

Explosive
BONDL8

Text **LOGO** <keyword> to 209

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ALL in the family: Mom of the bride Babydoll Aquino, Regina and Robert with Robert's parents, Lt..Col. Kevin and Jo Richards

AQUINO-RICHARDS NUPTIALS

Keeping an old vow and making a new one

By Maurice Arcache

SIX years ago, Regina Refugio Naldo Aquino, beautiful and talented stage actress, daughter of vivacious, globe-trotting Rose "Babydoll" Aquino, vice president of WorldTravel BTI in Atlanta, Georgia, vowed to marry on the same day her grandparents, the late Rep. Rafael "Pael" C. Aquino and Refugio "Puring" Aquino, made their marriage vows.

The occasion was the celebration of the golden wedding anniversary at the Manila Cathedral of her beloved "Nana" and "Nunu."

So Regina wed her tall, handsome and successful financial analyst beau, Robert Anthony Richards, son of Lt. Col. Kevin and Josephine Richards of Alexandria, Virginia, on the same day at the St. Matthews Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

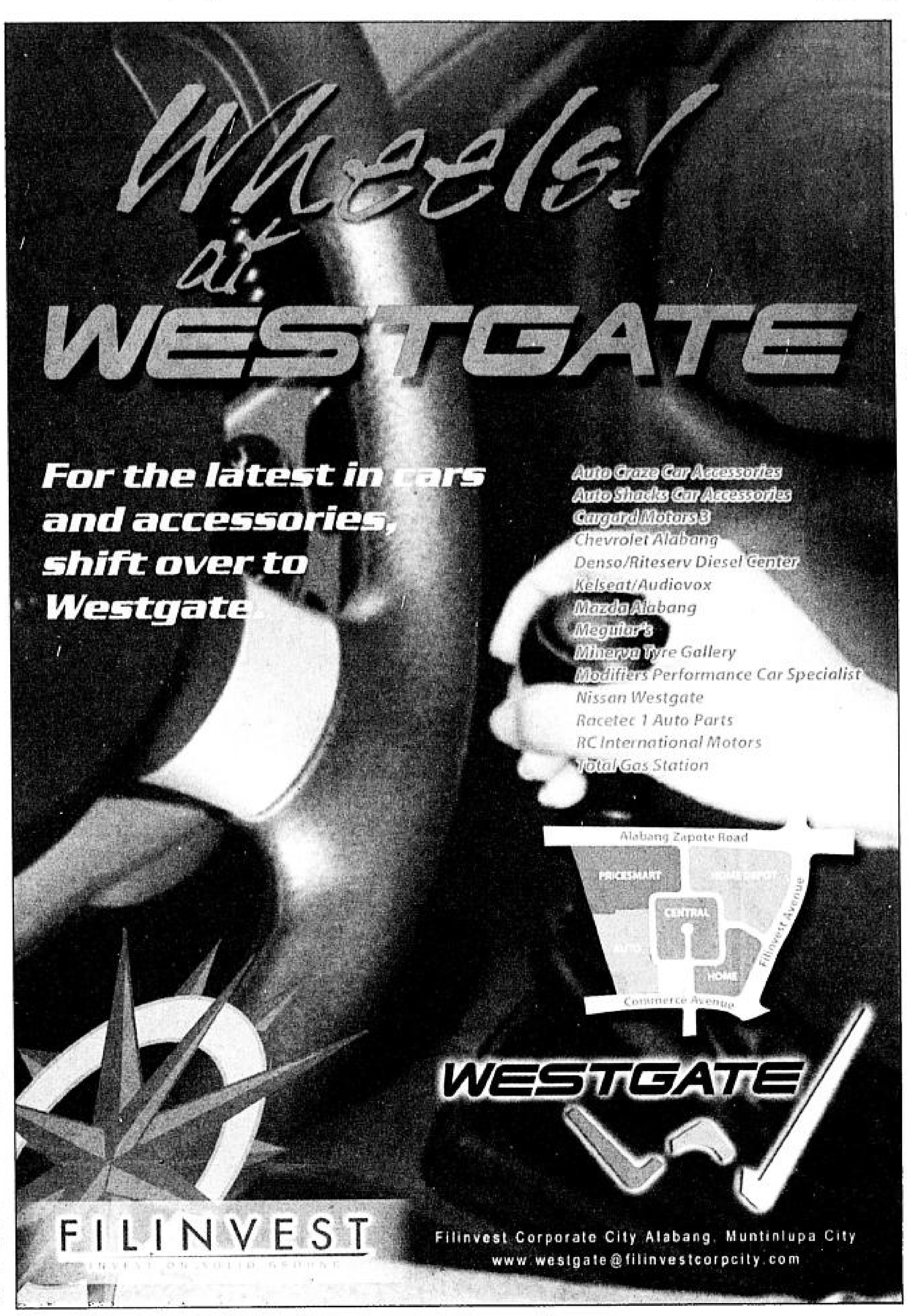
Traveling pair

Despite the bride's travels—visiting her grandparents in the Philippines, studying in New York, meeting her mother in Dubai or Atlanta—home was always Washington.

Robert also did a lot of traveling, his father being in the United States military. He spent most of his life in Hawaii, a few years in Singapore then went to the mainland for college. Upon graduating, he also moved to the D.C. area.

The couple met through a mutual pal at a Halloween party in 2002. Robert's best friend in college was Regina's old high school buddy. While they noticed each other's good looks, the timing wasn't quite right then.

KEEPING/ E2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Globe Kababayan lets OFWs rediscover the Philippines with Flipside

The Philippines is indeed a very beautiful country. Filipinos who have been away for long periods of time can attest that our natural wonders like the Taal and Mayon Volcanoes, historical and cultural landmarks like the Banaue Rice Terraces and the Miag-ao Church and unique traditions like the Peñafrancia and Masskara Festivals are comparable to, if not better, than those abroad.

Globe Kababayan, the new mobile service campaign for OFWs by innovations leader Globe Handyphone, knows how important it is for Filipinos not to lose their distinct cultural identity despite exposure to various foreign influences while living and working away from home. That is why it is now sponsoring Flipside, a new lifestyle and travel program airing on the Living Asia Channel, locally shown through Dream Broadcasting System, Destiny, Home and other major cable operators. The Living Asia Channel can also be seen in Asia and North America through the Mabuhay Satellite, Globecast World TV and The Filipino Channel (TFC) Direct and even online at the ABS-CBN Interactive.

Flipside is hosted by internationally renowned Filipino American teen idol Lalaine, best known for her role as Miranda Sanchez in the hit Disney Channel series Lizzie McGuire.

During the course of thirteen (13) episodes, she will take viewers on a cross country journey of discovery that will deepen and strengthen her appreciation of her parents' home country. Included in Lalaine's itinerary are location shoots in beautiful Tagaytay, the historic walled city of Intramuros, the Manila Chinatown, and the island paradise of Boracay.

Flipside gives all Filipinos here and abroad a chance to rediscover the charm and beauty of the Philippines long taken for granted by years of familiarity or absence. As seen from a different perspective, the Philippines comes across as a truly fantastic country imbued with a magic you never thought was there.

"I fell in love with the show's concept of a young Filipino rediscovering her roots. Although I lived in the Philippines for five years, it's been ages since I've been back. I thought hosting Flipside is a great way for me to learn about the different culture and traditions of the Philippines while also making it known to all of my fans of my Filipino heritage," explains Lalaine.

Lalaine says that she is having the time of her life re-establishing ties with her relatives, making new friends and visiting lots of new and interesting places. But every now and then she admits she experiences homesickness. So whenever she does, she grabs her cellphone to call or text her friends back in Los Angeles.

A self-confessed cellphone enthusiast, Lalaine is glad that Flipside has also incorporated a portion called Globe Kababayan Mobile Moments into the program. This segment allows her to use pioneering Globe's International services such as International Short Message Service (ISMS) or International Multi-Media Message Service (IMMS) to tell her friends and loved ones in the U.S. of her daily activities from her mobile handset. Getting homesick is a reality of living away from home. A way to combat it is to have regular communication with family, friends and loved ones. That's why Globe offers a wide array of services such as International Direct Dial (IDD), ISMS and IMMS which lets millions of Filipinos including the relatives of OFWs to stay in touch with their loved ones in whatever part of the world they may be at.

It's also worth noting that Globe's IDD Service offers a flat rate of 40 US Cents to any destination at any time of the day. Globe also extends its superior service to tourists and *balikbayans.* Wherever they may be in the country, they can rest assured that Globe's extensive nationwide coverage has got them covered.

Living and working abroad is not an excuse to forget one's roots. Globe Kababayan ensures that the unique Filipino identity and culture will remain alive in a changing global landscape through sponsorship of TV shows like Flipside and through giving OFWs abroad and their families in the Philippines communication tools which bring them closer to home.

Globe Kababayan
MOBILE SERVICES PARA SA OFW

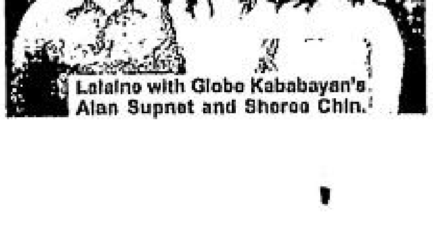
Mobile Moments
1 oo
2 abc
def 3
4 ghi
5 jkl
mno 6
7

Lalaine at the Flipside contract signing.

Making beautiful music with Freddie Aguilar

Lalaine jams with folk singer Jooy Ayala.

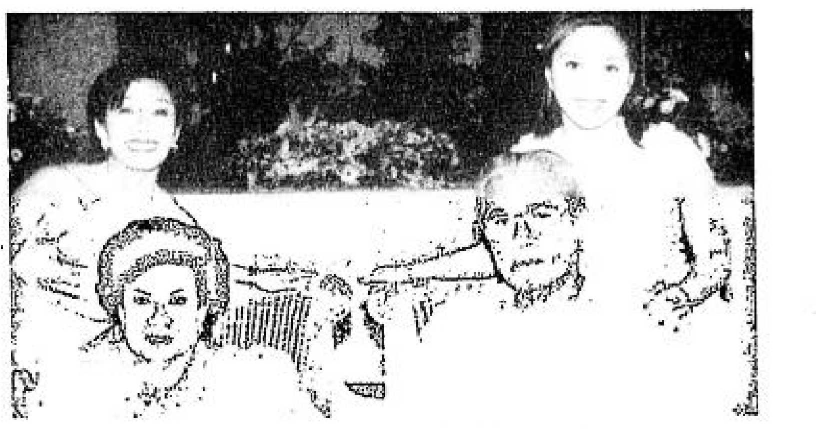
Bayanihan's Ferdinand Jose gives Lalaine lessons on Filipino ethnic dancing.


Lalaine with Globe Kababayan's Alan Supnet and Sheree Chin.

Lalaine with the Bayanihan Dance Company.

An introduction to the Philippines' No. 1 heat quencher – the halo-halo.

THE EXTENDED Aquino family poses with the newlyweds at the reception.



ROSE Aquino and daughter Regina at the golden wedding anniversary of their parents, Rep. Rafael and Puring Aquino, on Jan. 2, 1998

MOM of bride Rose "Babydoll" Aquino with brother-in-law Francisco "Ike" Ramos

SISTERS ACT. Stunning sisters, and aunts of the bride, Rowena Aquino and Rosita Aquino-Ramos outside St. Matthew's Cathedral, Washington, DC

Keeping an old vow and making a new one

From page E1

NEWLYWEDS Regina and Robert with principal sponsors: uncle Francisco Ramos, aunts Carol Aquino, Nelda Lee, Kathleen Fonder, Anecia Esmilla and uncle Paul Lokie

But they bumped into each other in another party a year later. Regina was impressed by his intelligence and passion during their first real conversation. They discovered how much they had in common.

Falling madly in love, they were engaged after five months of dating.

'Where thou goest'

One evening, Robert simply said, "I want to move to New York and I want you to move with me—as my wife. Marry me?" Regina replied, "Yes!"

Deciding to wed on her grandparents' anniversary, the couple spent their eight-month engagement planning the wedding. Their wedding invitation was *tres* personal, containing their favorite love poem, "And Now You're Mine" by Pablo Neruda.

Regina looked radiant, like someone from a fairytale, in a romantic light-mauve corseted ball gown of layers of tulle with matching long-trained tulle cape, worn in lieu of a veil. The dress was designed by Rena Koh of Boca Raton. Babydoll chose an elegant vintage beaded terno from her late mom's collection of gowns designed by the late Ramon Valera, no less, *palanggas*.

The big antique wooden doors of St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington opened at 2:30 p.m. for the ceremony. The teary-eyed mother of the bride watched the apple of her eye walk down the aisle. Robert was dashing in his 3/4-length tuxedo suit. He had a gold pocket watch given by his father, as well as gold and jade cuff links that belonged to Regina's "Nunu" Rafael Aquino.

All in the family

The couple asked family and pals to join the bridal entourage. Regina's close pal, actor and singer/songwriter Cynthia Lin, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids, stunning in long back gowns and mauve tulle capes, were cousins and pals who came from three continents. They were cousins Christine "Chie" Jose-Irwin, Charisse Aquino, Rainbow Ramos, Ronnie Ramos, International School Manila friend Chesa Zimmer and fellow actor Veronica del Cerro.

Junior bridesmaid Samantha Lee and flower girls, nieces Natalie Fowler and Julia Fonder, also wore mauve capes and looked like little fairies.

Best man was Dutton Hauhart, who introduced the couple. Groomsmen were cool and hip brothers, Anthony and Christopher Richards and close friends from college. Coin and ring bearers were nephews Michael Lokie and Jackson Fonder, handsome in their black suits.

Principal sponsors were all aunts and uncles, such as *titas* Nelda Lee, Carol Lim Dayonot, Annie Esmilla and Kathleen Fonder and *titos* like Ramos, Paul Lokie.

THE GRAND matriarch, Refugio "Puring" Aquino, in the early '60s in one of her Ramon Valera gowns

Reception was at the newly refurbished elegant and stately Madison Hotel in Washington, D.C., where 175 people feasted on fusion cuisine, blending East and West with "Pan-asian," "Middle Eastern" and "Western" food stations. A sushi chef was there from KAZ Sushi, the best in town.

'Flowers' from Manila

The wedding cake was a delicious four-tiered burgundy cake alternating triple chocolate mousse and Bavarian fruit pastry. It was topped with beautifully handcrafted gum-paste calla lilies from Manila, made especially by aunt Byng Ayson-Aquino, owner of Perfect-match Flowers. A "dessert lounge" was filled with over 30 different calorific, cholesterolific sweets, from all over the world. An old-fashioned ice cream parlor was a testament to Regina's love for ice cream.

Tres visible at the event were Regina's socialite aunt, Rowena N. Aquino, who breezed in from Manila, accompanied by her newlywed daughter, Chie Jose-Irwin, and her Irish hubby Justin Irwin, who jetted in from Donegal, Ireland.

Another aunt, ballroom dancing queen, Rosita Aquino-Ramos, gave a beautiful rendition of "Dahil Sa Iyo" with her award-winning instructor, to the delight of the couple and their guests.

For the reception, super chic mom Babydoll changed into another hand-beaded vintage gown by Ramon Valera, also from her late mom Puring's collection. All sisters looked fabulous! Robert's large Italian and Celtic *famille* came from all over the US to witness the occasion.

Entertainment was a mixture of live and recorded music. Everyone rocked on the dance floor, led by the bride and groom until almost daylight, dahlings, when the newlyweds finally retired to their Royal Suite. The couple's adorable pug, Presley, sporting a bow tie, partied as well.

Everyone agreed the blending of Regina's Filipino and Robert's Italian/Celtic cultures promises a great partnership and future indeed!

Lipa street gets a new name

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

KALIPULAKO Street in Lipa, Batangas, has been renamed Obispo Obviar in honor of the first Filipino priest and bishop whose life is now under study by the Congregation for the Cause of Saints in Rome—Servant of God Bishop Alfredo Maria Aranda Obviar.

Attending the ceremonies were Lipa Mayor Vilma Santos-Recto, Lipa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles, Maka-Obviar Lay Organization president Danny Dolor, priests and municipal councilors who passed Special Ordinance No. 05-2004 with former vice mayor Fernando Manguera presiding.

Sponsors of the ordinance were Councilors Rowena C. Sombrano-Africa, Romy Macasaet and Leonila L. Catipon. They were supported by Councilors Eric B. Africa and Solomon L. de Jesus.

The street renaming in August was part of the celebration of Lipa City's 57th founding anniversary.

A good priest. Danny Dolor, who is helping in the information campaign on the late bishop, said he was a good priest, a holy priest. Danny got to know the bishop when he was auxiliary bishop of Lipa in 1944 and bought his medicines at the pharmacy of Danny's mother, Soledad Lirio Dolor, now 91.

Doña Soledad was actually the sponsor of Bishop Obviar when he was installed auxiliary bishop. She donated in 1979 the statue of the bishop that is now in the garden of the convent of the Missionary Catechists of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, which he founded in 1958. The bishop passed away on Oct. 1, 1978, feast of St. Therese, at age 89.

In 1994, the Bishop Alfredo Obviar Museum opened in Tayabas, Quezon. Danny Dolor opened in 2002 the Bishop Obviar Center in SLD Bldg. on P. Torres Street, Lipa, (tel. 043-7562429).

A private chapel of Bishop Obviar at the Aranda residence, Mataas na Lupa, Lipa can be visited by appointment.

Full-color comics. A full-color comic booklet in English and Tagalog has been published through Danny Dolor and the Maka-Obviar Lay Organization. To get a copy, text Sister Nelida at 0921-2144637. Those who want copies of prayers can write to me, enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Shower of roses. When Bishop Obviar was Lipa's auxiliary bishop, the miracle of the ros- es happened. But he accepted the decision of the Bishops of the Commissions in 1951 to put a stop to stories about the apparitions.

June Keithley's book, "Lipa," mentions an interview in 1992 with the late Bishop Godofredo Pedernal, a young priest during the Virgin's apparitions to Sr. Teresing Castillo, then a postulant.

Father Pedernal accompanied then Lipa Bishop Alfredo Verzosa to the Carmelite convent. The bishop was angry because of the nuns' claims of miracles. It was said a flow of rose petals met the bishop when he opened the convent's door. He fell to his knees, accepting the miracle was true.

But it had to be kept a secret. Some 56 years later, the apparition has still to be recognized by the Philippine Church.

But people go to Lipa to hear Mass and pray to Our Lady Mediatrix of All Graces. Bishop Pedernal passed away several months after the interview and, on his request, was buried beside Bishop Obviar in Tayabas, Quezon.

More on Bishop Obviar

Most Rev. Alfredo Maria Aranda Obviar was born in 1889 in Mataas na Lupa, Lipa City, Batangas, to Telesforo Obviar and Florentina Catalina Aranda.

His early religious formation and education were at the Jesuit College of St. Francis Xavier in Manila. After earning a degree in Bachelor of Arts at Ateneo de Manila University, he went to the University of Sto. Tomas Pontifical Seminary for Theological Studies.

The bishop was ordained in 1919. His pastoral ministry began that same year at Luta (now Malvar), Batangas. He was pastor of the Cathedral Parish in Lipa City 1927-1944.

He established catechetical centers in both parishes. He also became vicar general of the archdiocese of Lipa. After 25 years in the ministry, Father Obviar was ordained to the Episcopate and became Lipa's first auxiliary bishop.

FR. Jonas Palmares, Fr. Eyong Ramos, Mother Mercy Medenilla, Archbishop Arguelles, Mayor Vilma Santos-Recto, Danny Dolor, MCST Mother General Felina Caspillo, Fr. Bong Luistro and former vice mayor Fernando Maguera

In 1951, Bishop Obviar was installed as apostolic administrator of the new diocese of Lucena where he founded the Missionary Catechists of St. Therese in 1958.

In 1969, Bishop Obviar was declared first residential bishop of the diocese of Lucena.

The cause of Bishop Obviar's beatification has led to efforts in his home province, Batangas, and hometown, Lipa, to propagate his life and work especially among Batangueños. Former Lipa Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales organized the Maka-Obviar Movement composed of Batangueño priests, religious brothers and sisters, relatives of Bishop Obviar, and the Batangas laity.

Seminary needs help

Fr. Oscar Cadayon, rector of Pope Paul VI minor seminary in Maasin, Leyte, wrote:

"Our minor seminary, named after Pope Paul VI, is now 34 years old. It needs some repair and repainting... Our Diocesan chancery province [is in] one of the poorest provinces in the Philippines.

"May I ask you for financial [assistance] for the repainting of the seminary dormitories and [the purchase of] ceiling fans [for the] seminary chapel and study hall... ?"

Write to Father Oscar at the above address, call (053)3813631 or e-mail ocadayona@excite.com

Student needs help. Sergio Genilsa, whose daughter Maria wants to become a nurse, can be reached at 5232754 or, by text, 0919-5169806. Maria is a first-year nursing student at Adamson University.

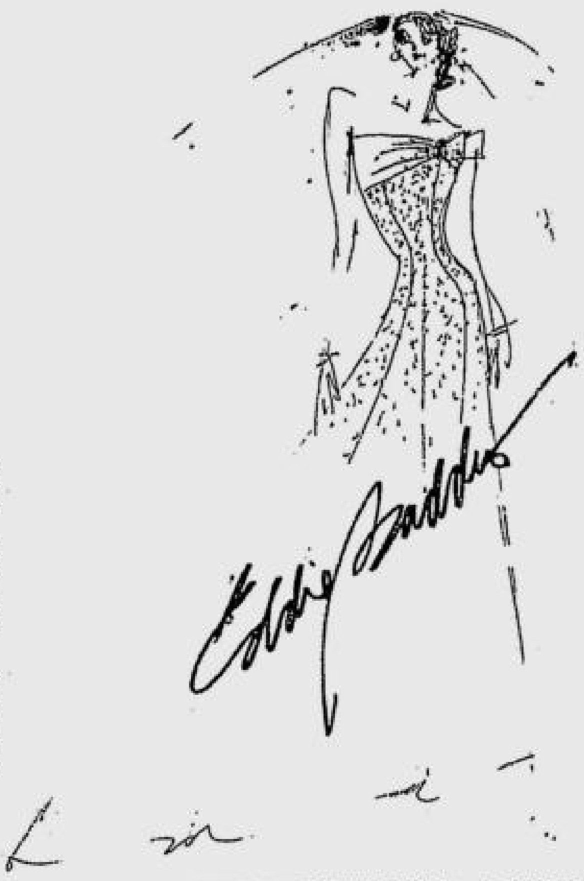
Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

ESPINOSA-RABENA

Melborne Espinosa, son of **Melanio and Teresa Espinosa**, will marry **Jewel Rabena**, daughter of **Aurelio and Marlyn Rabena**, on Oct. 23 at San Agustin Church in Intramuros. Reception will be at Tamayo's Villa Immaculada.

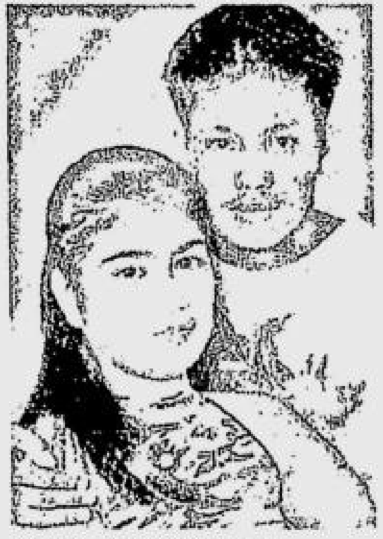
The bride will wear an ivory-white princess-cut duchess satin gown embellished with glass and cut beads, with a four-yard train designed by **Eddie Baddeo.**



TAN-NG

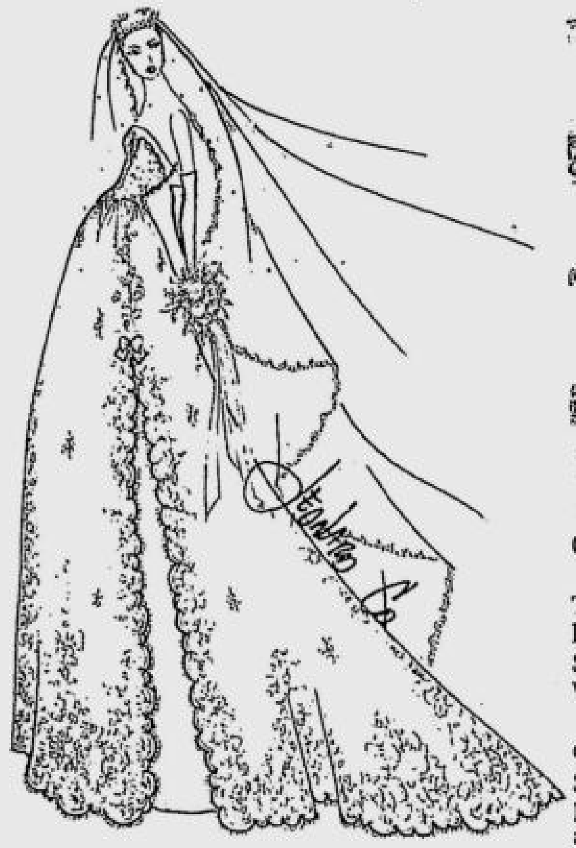
Edgar C. Tan, son of **Suan Te and Pec Ty Tan**, will marry **Melody K. Ng**, daughter of **Antonia Kho Ng**, on Nov. 21 at United Evangelical Church of the Philippines. Reception will be at CityBest Seafood Garden in Quezon City.

The bride will wear a silk organza gown with silver and transparent glass beads by **Gueco Designs.**



CRUZ-CALPATURA

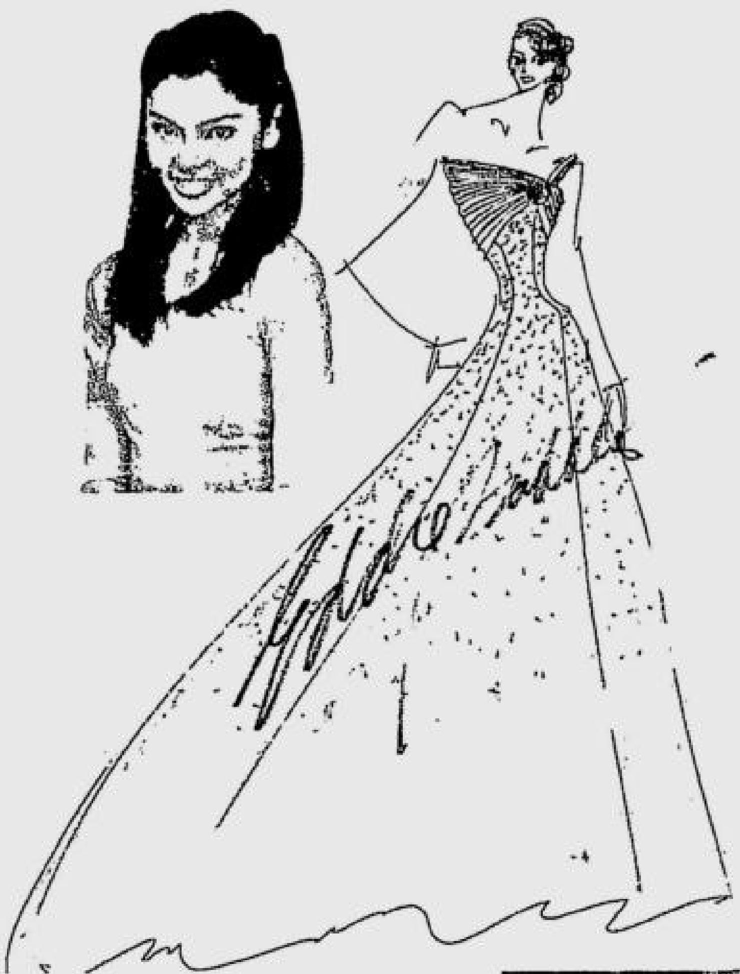
Marlene Cruz, daughter of **Ricardo** and **Felicidad Cruz**, and **Emar Calpatura**, son of **Crispin** and **Adoracion Calpatura**, will tie the knot on Oct. 30, 10 a.m., at the Saint Peter Parish Church, Tungkong Mangga, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan. Reception will follow at the groom's house at Block 39 Lot 1, Francisco Homes 3, Muzon, SJDM, Bulacan.



CO-TAN

Hayley Tan, daughter of **Teodora Tan** and **Tan Chin Bio**, will marry **Charlie Co**, son of **Mary Ann Co** and **Co Seng**, today at the Shrine of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life in Pasay City.

The bride will wear a gown of white duchess satin mixed with frosted organdy, embroidered in scroll and floral patterns with cut glass, sand crystals and Swarovski stones by **Leonard Co.**

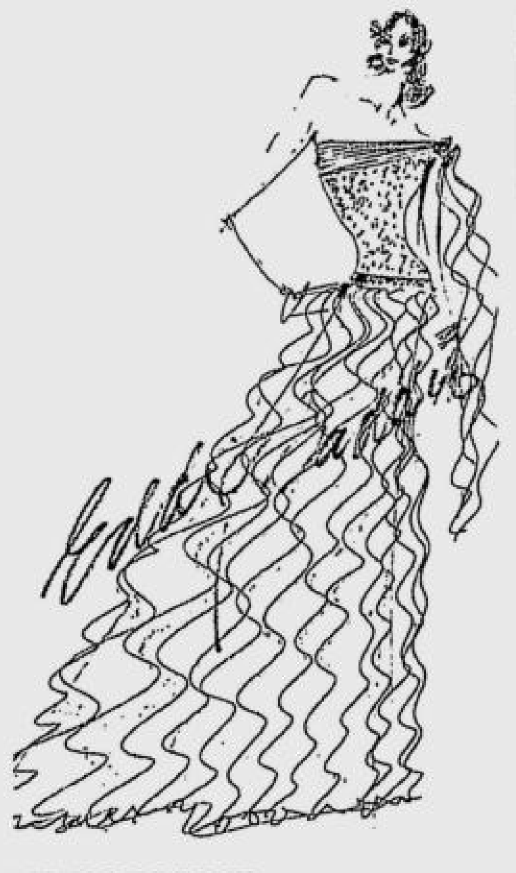


MURALLA DEBUT

Tracy Anne Muralla, eldest daughter of **Nestor** and **Weng Muralla**, will celebrate her debut on Oct. 20 at the Valle Verde Country Club ballroom. A part-time model, the debutante is taking up Commerce at the University of Santo Tomas. She will wear an **Eddie Baddeo** pink lilac princess-cut ballgown with draping top bodice in chartreuse, lavender and canary yellow, embellished with Swarovski crystals.

VILLAGONZALO DEBUT

Ryza P. Villagonzalo, daughter of **Henry Sr.** and **Celsa Villagonzalo**, celebrated her 18th birthday recently at Caritas, Manila. She is studying at the Orthopedagogical Institute in Manila.



HENSON DEBUT

Marie Rose Henson, daughter of **Oscar** and **Realiza Henson**, celebrated her 18th birthday yesterday at Patio Victoria in Intramuros. She wore an **Eddie Baddeo** creation—a gray and lavender gown with fully beaded bodice and Venus neckline, with A-line skirt and full circular bias ruffles. Styling was by **Meinard Giccomo.**

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

M	A	R	I	N	E	■	G	A	S	P	■	A	B	C	S	■	H	A	S	T
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O	P	T	O	U	T	■	I	S	I	N	■	A	S	E	A	■	R	H	E	A
W	H	E	N	T	H	E	M	A	N	D	I	S	C	O	V	E	R	E	D	■
S	A	D	■	R	E	N	■	S	T	I	C	K	■	■	■	A	I	R	E	D
■	■	■	D	I	R	G	E	S	■	T	H	A	T	H	I	S	D	E	A	R
E	B	S	E	N	■	■	N	I	A	■	■	■	A	I	D	E	■	S	T	U
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P	L	O	T	■	S	H	U	■	H	E	I	S	T	S	■	■	Y	O	R	K
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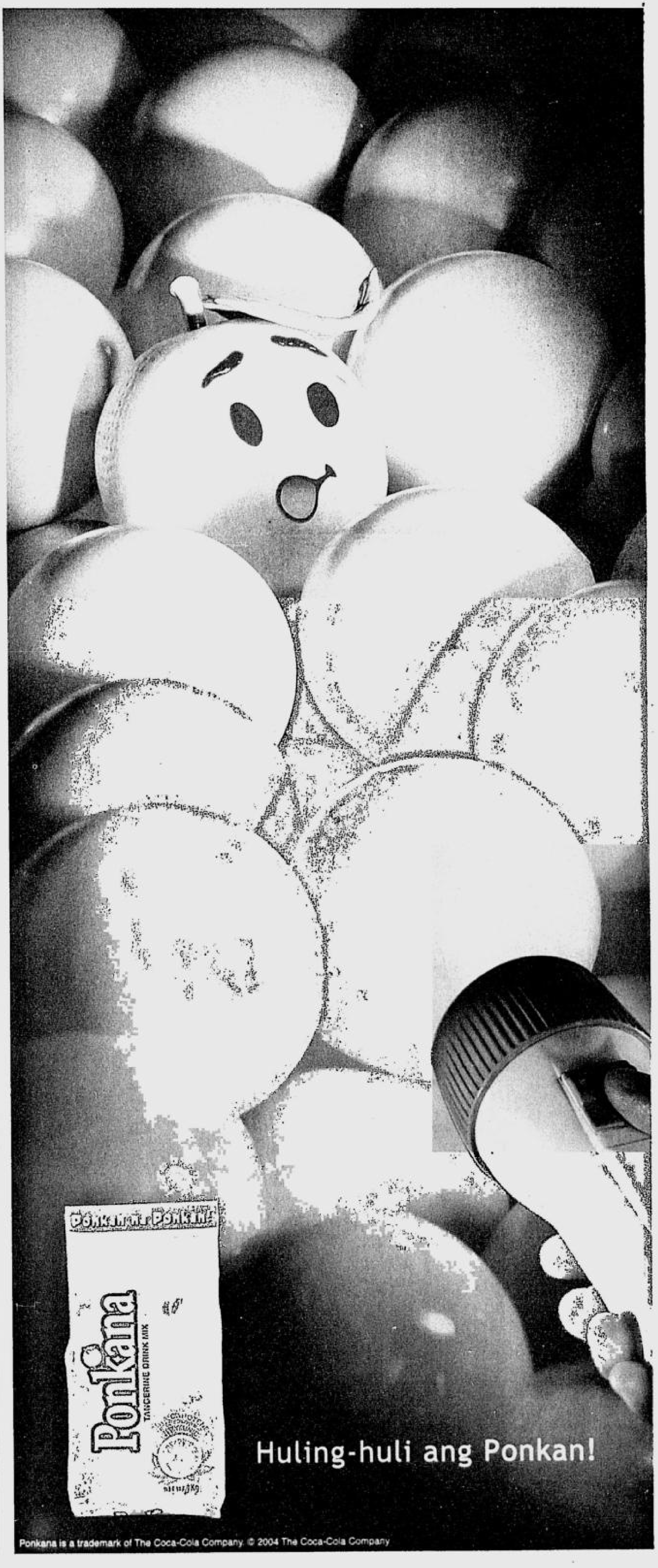
A	V	E	■	I	A	M	A	■	■	■	O	N	A	■	■	H	O	S	E	D
H	E	C	A	L	L	E	D	T	H	E	■	C	L	O	S	E	T	■	■	■
A	R	T	I	E	■	■	■	Y	E	N	T	L	■	D	O	M	■	V	E	G
■	M	I	S	S	I	N	G	P	Y	T	H	O	N	S	B	U	R	E	A	U
F	O	O	L	■	D	E	L	I	■	R	I	S	E	■	E	M	E	R	G	E
A	R	N	E	■	L	E	A	F	■	A	N	E	W	■	I	M	A	G	E	S
N	E	S	S	■	E	D	D	Y	■	P	E	S	T	■	T	Y	L	E	R	S



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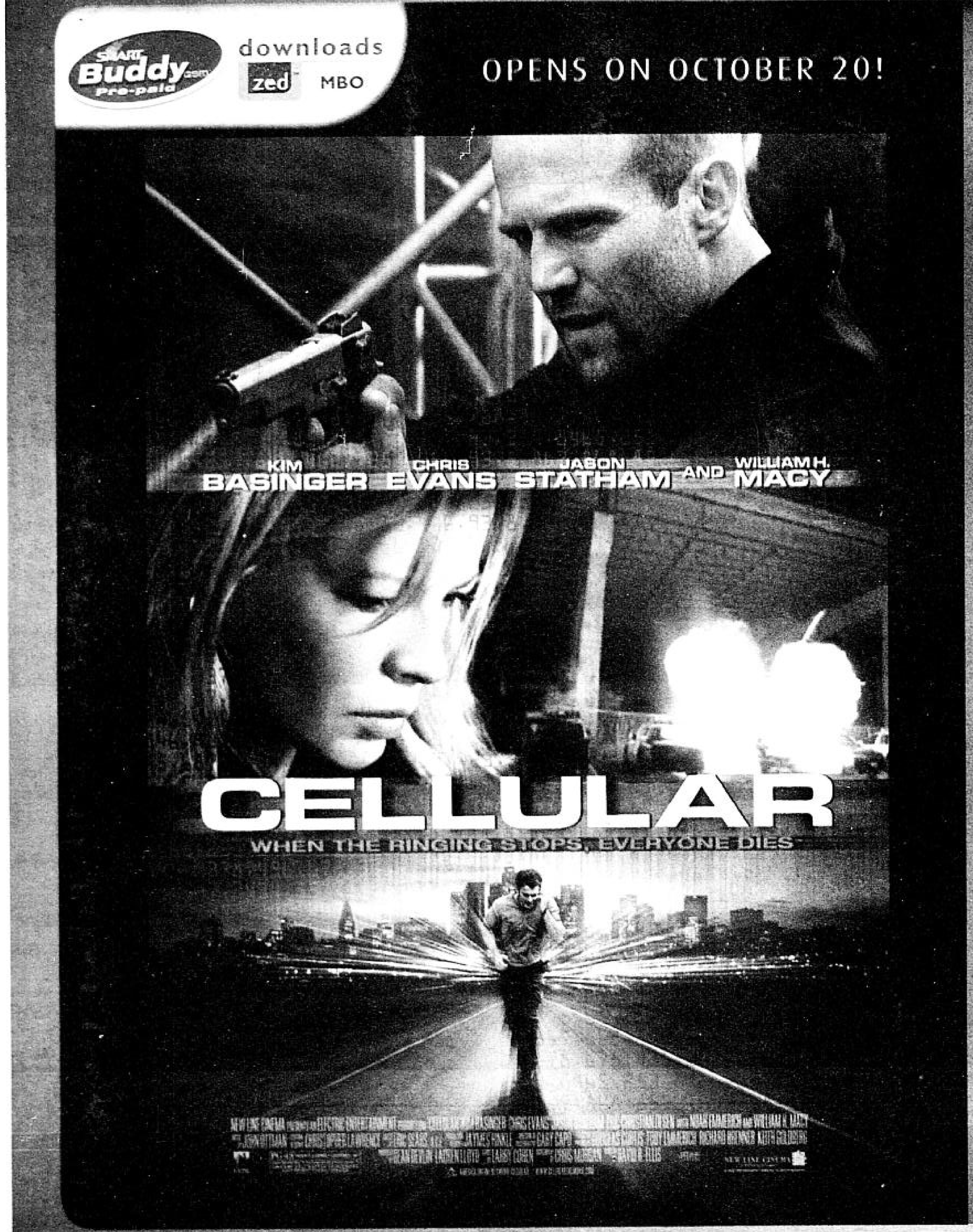

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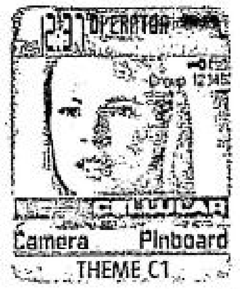
LOGO JESS
LOGO RYAN
LOGO GREER
LOGO GREER1
LOGO GREER2

Cellular Picture messages

PIC CELL
PIC CELL1
PIC CELL2
PIC PJESS
PIC PJESS1
PIC PGREER

Cellular Themes


THEME C1

THEME C2

THEME C3

THEME C4

THEME C5

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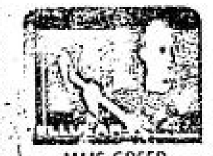

MMS GREER

MMS GREER1

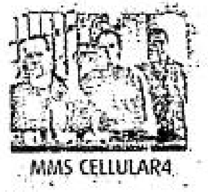
MMS GREER2

MMS MOONEY

MMS MOONEY1

MMS CELLULAR2

MMS CELLULAR3


MMS CELLULAR4

Logos

LOGO CELLPHONE
LOGO NOLOGO1
LOGO CALLING1
LOGO MAYTEXT
LOGO UNLOCK
LOGO MATCH
LOGO TEXTME
LOGO TXTSUN1
LOGO EX1
LOGO DONTEXT
LOGO DELETE
LOGO MSGSENT
LOGO SCREEN
LOGO LUVMSG
LOGO FREE1
LOGO TXTME1
LOGO LOVERCALLING
LOGO LUVTXT
LOGO CELLUV
LOGO TXTADIK
LOGO TROUBLE1
LOGO TXTME2
LOGO LUVMSG1
LOGO PROTECT
LOGO PICKME
LOGO WALALOGO
LOGO LUVCEL
LOGO VIRUSALERT
LOGO CARDERROR
LOGO RACING
LOGO SLEEP1
LOGO ASTIG7
LOGO WUZUP3
LOGO FLOWERS7
LOGO STARKA1

Picture messages

PIC BASTA
PIC CALLING
PIC TXTBAK
PIC TEXTED
PIC TEXTME1
PIC PANLOAD
PIC FREELOAD
PIC TXTMEHA
PIC CELBLESS
PIC PHONEME
PIC TXTADIK1
PIC TXTBACK
PIC TXTME
PIC FONPAL

Ringtones

Song Title	Artist	Mono keyword
If I Ain't Got You	*Alicia Keys*	**TONE AINTGOTU**
Here To Stay	*Korn*	**TONE HERE2STAY**
Angel	*Sarah McLachlan*	**TONE ANGEL**
I'll Never Get Over You (Getting Over Me)	*Bellefire*	**TONE NVRGETOVR**
Things Will Go My Way	*The Calling*	**TONE GOMYWAY**
Sleeping Satellite	*Tasmin Archer*	**TONE SLEEPSAT**
Out Is Through	*Alanis Morrissette*	**TONE OUTIS**
Everytime	*Britney Spears*	**TONE EVERYTIME**
All That She Wants	*Ace of Base*	**TONE ALLTHAT**
Talk About Our Love	*Brandy feat. Kanye West*	**TONE TALKABOUT**
Long Distance	*Salbakuta*	**TONE LONGDISTNCE**
Telepono	*Sugarfree*	**TONE TELEPONO**
I Wish	*Celine Dion*	**TONE IWISH**
Trick Me	*Kelis*	**TONE TRICKME**
Miss Independent	*Kelly Clarkson*	**TONE MSIN**

Song Title	Artist	Poly Keyword
If I Ain't Got You	*Alicia Keys*	**POLY AINTGOTU**
Here To Stay	*Korn*	**POLY HERE2STAY**
Angel	*Sarah McLachlan*	**POLY ANGEL**
I'll Never Get Over You (Getting Over Me)	*Bellefire*	**POLY NVRGETOVR**
Things Will Go My Way	*The Calling*	**POLY GOMYWAY**
Sleeping Satellite	*Tasmin Archer*	**POLY SLEEPSAT**
Out Is Through	*Alanis Morrissette*	**POLY OUTIS**
Everytime	*Britney Spears*	**POLY EVERYTIME**
All That She Wants	*Ace of Base*	**POLY ALLTHAT**
Talk About Our Love	*Brandy feat. Kanye West*	**POLY TALKABOUT**
Long Distance	*Salbakuta*	**POLY LONGDISTNCE**
Telepono	*Sugarfree*	**POLY TELEPONO**
I Wish	*Celine Dion*	**POLY IWISH**
Trick Me	*Kelis*	**POLY TRICKME**
Miss Independent	*Kelly Clarkson*	**POLY MSIN**

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TYPE IN KEYWORD.
EX. LOGO CELLULAR,
TONE AINTGOTU,
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288

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Note. In order for you to identify which musical work the ringtone in question is based on, we have, in addition to the song title, referred an artist who has made the song well known. The artist in question has not participated in the production of the ringtone.

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Women of the year

12 Filipina achievers join the illustrious ranks of TOWNS awardees

STORY ON PAGE F2

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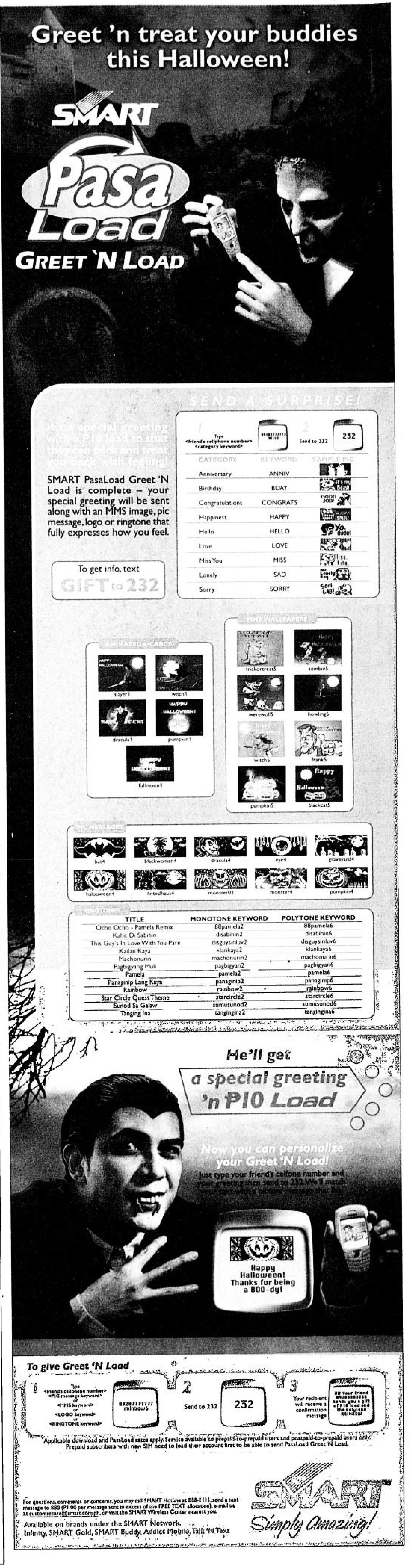

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1 Type <friend's cellphone number> <category keyword>
2 Send to 232

CATEGORY	KEYWORD	SAMPLE PIC
Anniversary	ANNIV	
Birthday	BDAY	
Congratulations	CONGRATS	GOOD JOB!
Happiness	HAPPY	
Hello	HELLO	Yo, dude!
Love	LOVE	
Miss You	MISS	Miss Lita
Lonely	SAD	Mr. Lonely Boy
Sorry	SORRY	Sori LAB!

ANIMATED e-CARDS
slayer1, witch1, dracula1, pumpkin1, fullmoon1

MMS WALLPAPERS
trickortreat5, zombie5, werewolf5, howling5, witch5, frank5, pumpkin5, blackcat5

PIC MESSAGES
bat4, blackwoman4, dracula4, eye4, graveyard4, halooween4, hntedhaus4, monster02, monster4, pumpkin4

RINGTONES

TITLE	MONOTONE KEYWORD	POLYTONE KEYWORD
Ocho Ocho - Pamela Remix	88pamela2	88pamela6
Kahit Di Sabihin	disabihin2	disabihin6
This Guy's In Love With You Pare	disguysinluv2	disguysinluv6
Kailan Kaya	klankaya2	klankaya6
Machonurin	machonurin2	machonurin6
Pagbigyang Muli	pagbigyan2	pagbigyan6
Pamela	pamela2	pamela6
Panaginip Lang Kaya	panaginip2	panaginip6
Rainbow	rainbow2	rainbow6
Star Circle Quest Theme	starcircle2	starcircle6
Sunod Sa Galaw	sumusunod2	sumusunod6
Tanging Ina	tanginginа2	tangingina6

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Just type your friend's celfone number and your greeting then send to 232. We'll match your text with a picture message that fits.

Happy Halloween! Thanks for being a BOO-dy!

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2 Send to 232
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RAQUEL Fortun

DEANIE Lyn Ocampo

ALICIA Arroyo

MADONNA Casimero

DITA Sandico Ong

Women of the year

Text by Rowena C. Burgos
Photos by Joseph Agcaoili

THEIR accomplishments reflect the powerful combination of proficiency, passion and, yes, perspiration. But, although we suspect that these women really sweat, they do it ever so discreetly.

In a recent press conference, this year's awardees of The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS) talked briefly about their extraordinary career choices, living their dreams and the determination required to be a successful woman in today's world.

Because of her work with sick children, Catherine Babao-Guballa was given the Reader's Digest Everyday Hero award in 2003 and a Unicef honor in 2002. This TOWNS awardee for public service (children's healthcare advocacy) was trying to overcome her grief over the death of her son in 1998 when she established Migi's Corner Foundation, a nonprofit organization aimed at improving the living conditions of indigent kids in government hospitals. There are now 12 Migi's Corners all over the country.

"As editor in chief of Me magazine, I continue to advocate for improvements in the area of children's health through stories in the magazine and by continuing to write about such topics in the INQUIRER," says Guballa, who is also helping in the rehabilitation of the pediatrics ward of the Philippine General Hospital.

Alicia Rita Morales Arroyo, chair of the Philippine Stock Exchange, worked hard to make the Rizal Commercial and Banking Corp. (RCBC) a leading remittance player in Hong Kong, before she became the president and CEO of RCBC Securities Inc.

"I relocated the Kowloon Remittance Office to the Star Ferry, enabling OFWs to have easier access to remitting their funds to their beneficiaries. This also gave them an option for door-to-door delivery nationwide. Together with respected business personalities, I worked on the establishment of the Hong Kong Bayanihan Trust Co. that enabled domestic helpers to make use of training facilities," says Arroyo, who received an Appreciation Award from the PSE in 2001 for supporting and contributing to the demutualization of the PSE, and in 2004 for her "sterling leadership and dedication."

Maria Josephine Barrios' work as an alternative romance novelist is considered pioneering, because she has used a popular literary form to discuss issues such as censorship and violence against women and mail-order brides.

"I have effectively articulated the experiences and issues of women through my poetry, plays and alternative novels. I believe my work has influenced and inspired other women writers, artists and musicians," says Barrios, whose researches have greatly contributed to women's studies and literature.

A facilitator-trainer in theater and poetry workshops in the Philippines and United States, Barrios conceptualized the six-week UP Intensive Philippine Studies Program, which offers courses in Filipino and Philippine Studies to Filipino-American and Southeast Asian Studies scholars from the US, Japan and other countries.

Madonna Carbon Casimero earned an award for Outstanding Research Level 1 for the Philippine Rice Research Institute in 1995. In 1999, she merited the best paper in weed science at the 31st PMCP Annual Scientific Meeting. In 2001, her work titled "Population Dynamics and Growth of Weeds in Rainfed, Rice-Onion System in Response to Chemical and Cultural Contract Methods," was awarded the best research paper.

"Born to a poor family, I have always been inspired to search for relevant technologies to alleviate low production and the income of poor families in the country," she says.

Cecilia Oreña Drilon has been in broadcast journalism for 19 years now. She has covered some of the Philippines' most memorable stories, like the government's negotiations with the CPP-NDF in 1986 and with the MNLF in 1987, the coup against the Aquino government in 1989, the killer quake in 1990, the Mt. Pinatubo eruption in 1991, the ambush of Joe Pring by the CPP's Alex Boncayao Brigade in 1994, and the peace talks between the Philippine government and the Muslim separatist group MILF in Tripoli, Libya, in 2001.

"I have consistently tried to uphold responsibility and commitment in an industry that is fiercely competitive and driven by ratings and profit. My strong commitment to public service is my personal and humble contribution to the task of nation-building," Drilon says.

CATHERINE Babao-Guballa

CHINCHIN Gutierrez

Raquel del Rosario Fortun is the first Filipino pathologist formally trained in forensic pathology and the first Filipino woman pathologist. She won The Outstanding Young Men Award in forensic pathology in 2002.

Fortun offered her forensic medicine expertise *pro bono* during the Ozone disco tragedy in 1996, the Asosacion de Damas Filipinas fire in 1998 and the Asian Spirit plane crash in 1999. For the autopsy of a Filipino worker killed in Saipan, she was taken as a forensic pathology consultant by the Attorney General's office of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas in 1997. She participated in the Physician for Human Rights-Republic of Cyprus Mission in 1999 to identify victims of the Turkish invasion. In 2001-2002, she was forensics pathology consultant for the UN Transnational Administration in East Timor.

"Being a spokeswoman of the dead is a fascinating job," she deadpans.

Carmina Lourdes Cynthia Arnaldo Gutierrez won Time Magazine's Asian Heroes Award in 2003 "for using her fame to spread a message often ignored in the Philippines." In 2004, she won the International Earth Day Award of Recognition for "Uyayi, a Collection of Philippine Lullabies." She has also organized multisectoral consultations among the diverse groups residing in Mt. Banahaw, helping them to take care of the place's precious watershed and forest cover.

"Whether engaged in the task of healing Mother Earth or rekindling our ties with our Motherland by echoing the voices of our ancestral past, I believe I have touched the lives and hearts of our countrymen and made them proud to be people of the Philippines and citizens of the world," says this actress.

Marichu Celino Lambino received the Parangal from Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino in 2002. In 2000, she joined the impeachment trial of Joseph Estrada as a private prosecutor. "I annotated live on TV the presentation of bank managers and Chavit Singson as witness," she says.

Lambino was appointed UP Diliman chief legal officer in 1991. In 2000, she was part of the fact-finding mission to war-torn Mindanao.

Aura Castillo Matias, president of the Philippine Ergonomics Society, director of the Philippine Institute of Industrial Engineering, division head of the National Research Council of the Philippines and secretary-general of the Association for Engineering Education in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, is the key founder of the Philippine Institute of Industrial Engineers.

"My involvement in various government projects has been characterized by both application of expertise and creativity in generating new knowledge that form the basis of government policy and decision-making," Matias says.

Deanie Lyn Ocampo has published researches for the Reading Association of the Phils., Family Studies Program of the UP College of Home Economics and UP Home Economics Journal. Her specialization in Early Childhood Care and Development covers an extensive community-based research and development experience, utilized for national and local policy reforms for the welfare of 0-6 years old Filipino children.

"I dedicate my achievements to my bedridden father and to my mother. They are the moving powers in my work," she says.

Fernandina Sandico Ong, president-designer of Cache Apparels and president of Earthlite Foundation, has promoted and used the finished products of the Mangyans in Mindoro. She also plans to put up a center to promote Mindoro to both locals and tourists. In 1992, she was recognized with The World's Who's Who of Women Certificate of Merit, 11th Edition, by the International Biographic Center in Cambridge, England.

Blessilda Perez Raposa, president of the Mathematical Society of the Phils., secretary of the National Research Council of the Phils. and member of the Southeast Asian Mathematical Society, is a member of the Commission on Higher Education technical panel for science and math, which evaluates academic programs for higher institutions.

"My efforts have always been geared toward the improvement of the mathematics community in the Philippines. The seminars I help conduct aim at improving the mathematical knowledge of teachers and students alike," she says.

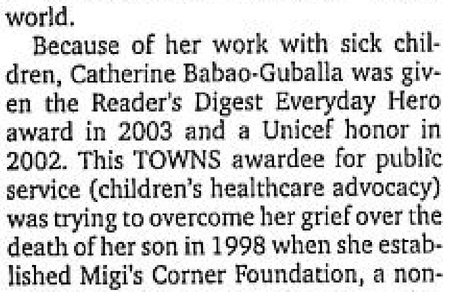
Worthy of emulation

TOWNS Awards are given every three years to Filipino women professionals, 21-45 years old at the time of selection. Since TOWNS was founded in 1974 by Lions Club Int'l., it has awarded 130 women.

"These awardees represent the new wave of phenomenal women. They dare not only to dream but also to achieve success in professions where there is no room for mediocrity. They are examples to be celebrated and emulated by us all. By making performance their bottom line, they demonstrate that the most effective response to adversity is an insistent passion for excellence," says Dr. Perla Santos-Ocampo, chair of the awards committee.

This year's 12 TOWNS awardees will be honored on Oct. 28 at Malacañang Palace.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph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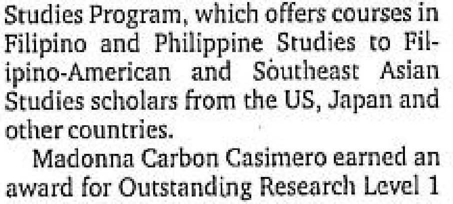
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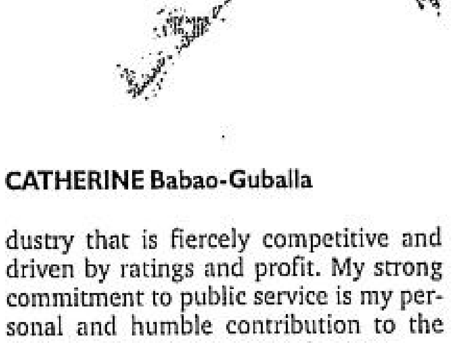
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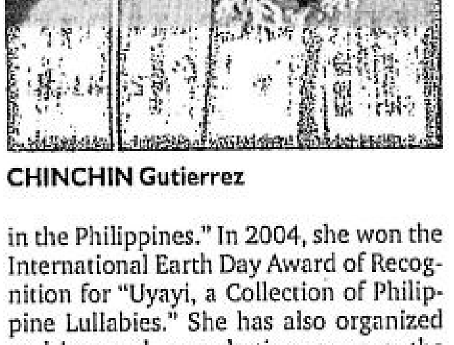
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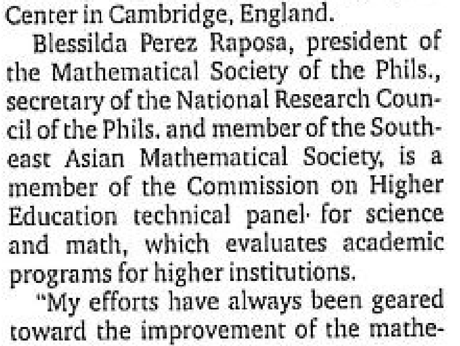
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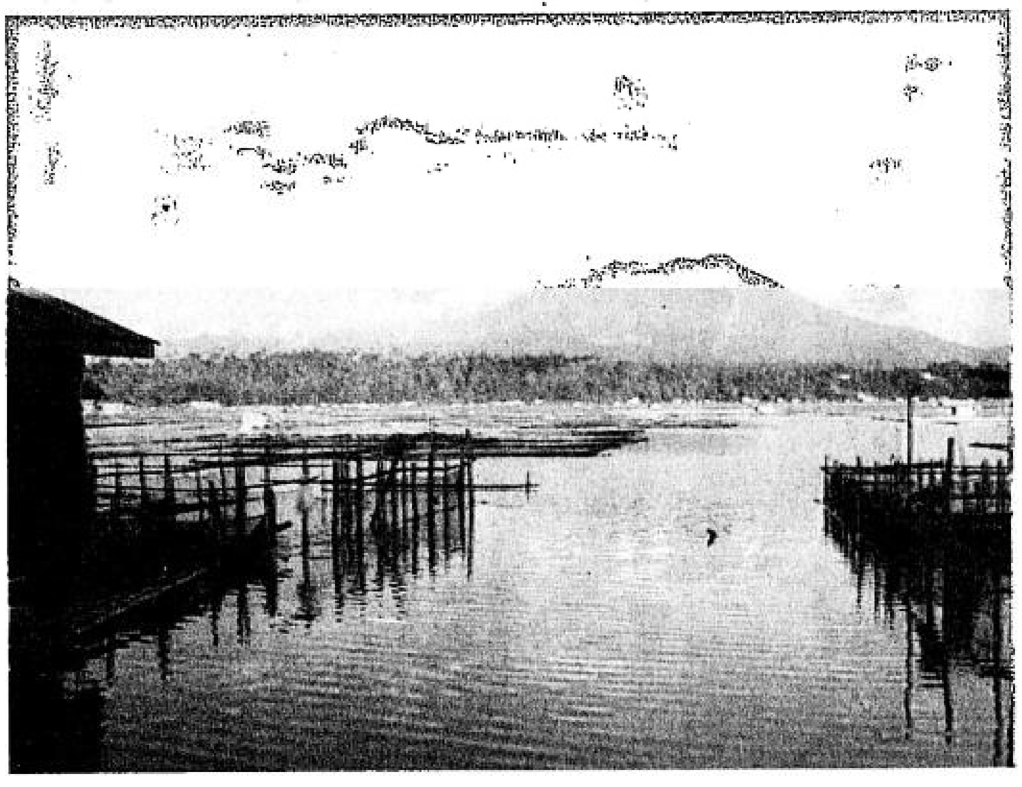


LAKE Sampalok with Mt. Banahaw as majestic backdrop

San Pablo celebrates its seven lakes

SAN Pablo City in Laguna will hold its Festival of the Seven Lakes Oct. 27-31.

The event will include Market sa Lawa trade fair and exhibits along the legendary Sampalok Lake, the biggest of San Pablo's seven lakes with an area of 104 ha, and site of the festival.

Aside from Sampalok, San Pablo City, which lies south of Laguna within sight of mystical Mt. Banahaw, has also Calibato, Pandin, Yambo, Bunot, Mohicap and Palakpakin lakes.

For the trade fair, Laguna's other towns will bring products that they are famous for like Sta. Cruz's *kesong puti*, Liliw's beaded footwear, Lumban's embroidered *jusi* and piña, and Los Baños' ornamental and other plants.

The festival's first day, Oct. 27, also the birthday of San Pablo Mayor Vicente Amante, begins with a motorcade, followed by a Mass at the Doña Leonila Park overlooking Sampalok Lake and Mt. Banahaw.

A dinner-cocktail will be held in the evening with Sen. Jamby Madrigal, Swiss Ambassador Lise Favre, Laguna Rep. Danton Q. Bueser, Gov. Teresita Lazaro, Vice Gov. Edwin L. Olivarez and Department of Tourism Director Louella Jurilla.

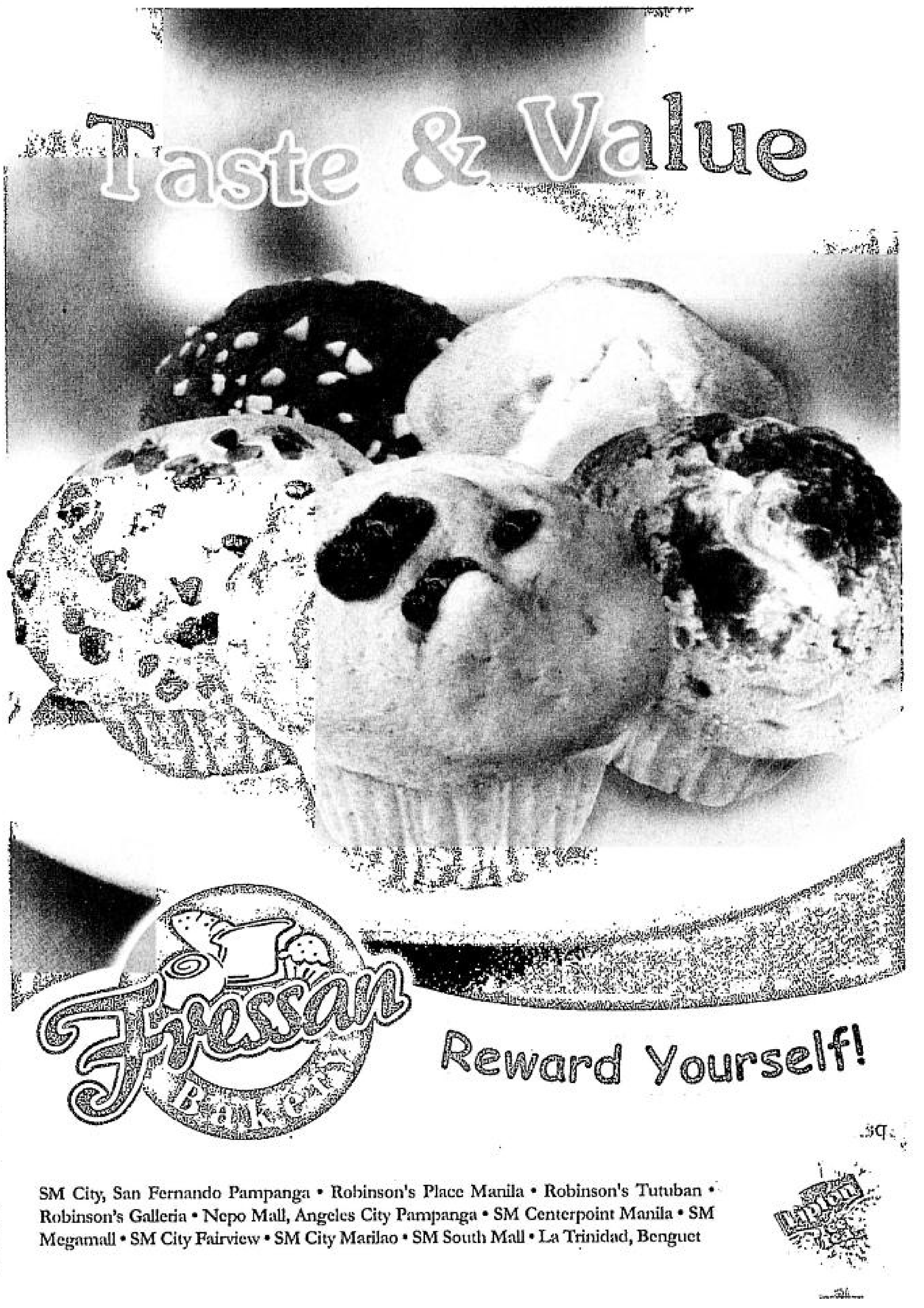
Festival of the Seven Lakes will also feature fun and games, contests and musical shows. San Pablo will also showcase its Cherubims and *rondalla*. Local bands will also perform.

The San Pablo Artists Society will hold a painting exhibition and contest. Animal lovers can enjoy a bird show and dog competition. A scarecrow contest and exhibit will also be held to mark Halloween.

Highlight of the festival is the Balsa Regatta at Sampalok Lake starting at 6 a.m. on Oct. 30.

Seven Lakes dwellers will participate in regatta on fast-moving bamboo rafts.

The Festival of the Seven Lakes has the support and participation of Laguna's different local government units, Department of Trade and Industry Laguna and San Pablo City Chamber of Commerce.



SM City, San Fernando Pampanga • Robinson's Place Manila • Robinson's Tutuban • Robinson's Galleria • Nepo Mall, Angeles City Pampanga • SM Centerpoint Manila • SM Megamall • SM City Fairview • SM City Marilao • SM South Mall • La Trinidad, Benguet

1,500 FILIPINOS HAVE FINALLY WON IN AN OLYMPIC EVENT.

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CABASE, MANDAUE CITY, CEBU • RONALD PO, LAHUG, CEBU • GRACE PO, LAHUG, CEBU • GLADYS ANN TUMANDA, CAPITOL SITE, CEBU • JUANITO C. JAPSON, CEBU PROVINCE CAPITOL, CEBU • JOAN M. GUNTING, CAMP LAPU-LAPU, CEBU • JOJIT CAPOY, 121 P DEL ROSARIO EXT., CEBU • MA. MERCEDES VARONA, 33 FLILTON ST., CEBU • DYLAN E. JAO, 1823 MJ CEUNCO AVE., CEBU. 2ND PRIZE LUZON - ADIDAS IMPOSSIBLE IS NOTHING POSTER: ERIC A. GO, MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA • HELEN GRANADA, A-3 IONA ST., SITIO VETERANS, BGY. BAGONG • CARLOS SUERTE, SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, BULACAN • ERIC GO, MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA • MICHAEL LOUIS GIMENEZ, QUEZON CITY • RONALD CATALAN, MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA • MARIA TERESITA L. JAMISOLA, QUEZON CITY • CLARK KENT MOLITO, LAS PIÑAS CITY, METRO MANILA • JANICE V. TEODORO, LIMAY, BATAAN • MARY ANN DIAMANTE, BGY. METRO MANILA • JHON REY ACOSTA, STA. ROSA, LAGUNA • PAMELA GRACE B. RABINA, MARILAO, BULACAN • ERIC A. GO, MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA • ERIC A. GO, MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA • CLARISSA Z. MENDOZA, CAINTA, RIZAL • ROWENA DE JESUS, PARAÑAQUE, METRO MANILA • MA. GEMMA PASAN, QUEZON CITY • KATHELEEN MATURAN, EAST WEST, BANA • ELIZABETH SAMONTE, QUEZON CITY • ERIC A. GO, MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA • EDNA P. FALCON, CAINTA, RIZAL • EARLENE CLARISSA CU CHING, CALOOCAN CITY, METRO MANILA • CAROL P. SANTOS, 2F DOMINICAN BLDG. PASAY ROAD • CHRIS VERON CRUZ, QUEZON CITY • MINNIE CHENG, QUEZON CITY • ROXANNA SALSEVIST, SAN MIGUEL AVE., CARESCENT COND • EDMUND MACARAIG, SAN JUAN, BATANGAS • ROSALINDA REYES, OBANDO, BULACAN • GLORIA VERIDIANO, STA. ROSA, LAGUNA • NIÑO HURANO, QUEZON CITY • ANGEL TRAMPE, ANTIPOLO CITY, RIZAL • MICHELLE B. NAVARRO, QUEZON CITY • ANABEL L. MARTINEZ, B 3 L 8 PHS 3 SOLAR URBAN HOMES, NORTH BAGUMBONG • ELMER T. HARO, BACOLOD CITY, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL • ALLAN PURIFICACION, SAN PEDRO, LAGUNA • HANIEL G. FELICIDAD, QUEZON CITY • AURELIA B. 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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF MCDONALD'S OLYMPIC WINNING TREATS.

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Nestlé MILO
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happy meal

Chito Vijandre, Mons Romulo-Tantoco, and Ricky Toledo

Standing: Mar Roxas, Korina Sanchez, and Globe's Gerry Ablaza
Seated: Gary Valenciano and Angeli Pangilinan-Valenciano

Nokia's Parikshit Bhasin, Pinky Webb, and Globe's Ferdz Dela Cruz

A flair for gourmet and technology

Globe Platinum's Mare e Terra was an exemplar in the arena of exquisite delights. Margarita Fores crafted Mare e Terra, a culinary tribute to the rich harvest from the sea and land. The intricately prepared feast derives inspiration from the rustic charm of Italy. Wines from Bacchus International complemented the cuisine.

Romantic music from a solo saxophonist played discreetly in the background, as some of Manila's notable names in government, business, society, media, entertainment and the arts savored the gourmet encounter. The garden café of Pepato, styled to resemble an Italian courtyard, highlighted a showcase of the latest artful mobile innovations from Nokia.

It truly was a night made special for Globe Telecom's top clients. Gerry Ablaza and Globe's top executives welcomed and entertained the guests. Friends of event co-hosts Mons Romulo-Tantoco and Margarita Fores also graced the event.

Gustatory delights that matched the excitement of a special preview of two upcoming handsets, the Nokia 6260 and the Nokia 9500 Communicator was indeed the perfect recipe for a memorable evening.

Collectively, these elements crescendo to a refined experience, a union of the modern and the traditional as only Globe Telecom can deliver.

The event: Mare e Terra
The hosts: Globe Platinum, Nokia, and Pepato
The venue: Pepato, Greenbelt 2

Stephanie Kienie and Christian Gonzales

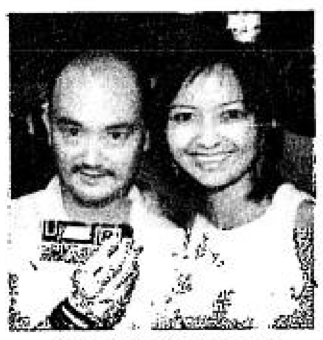
Hubtrons with Karen Kelly

Mons Romulo-Tantoco and Joyce Oreña

Willie Soong, Jun Cabangon, Alex Lichaytoo, and Sander Tantoco

Ces Drilon, Lea Caringal, and Edu Manzano

Toffer Vidal, Margarita Fores, and Raul Manzano



Pepper Teehankee and Luanne Erni

Cesar Buenaventura, Guillermo Luchangco, Maloy Luchangco, Leonardo Gonzalez, Toby Gan, and Bernie Gan

Seated: Chinggay Andrada, Cory Quirino
Standing: Victor Consunji, Margarita Fores, and Becky Garcia

Delfin Gonzales Jr., George Siy, Charlie Rufino, and Gerry Ablaza

Jojo Ocampo, Girlie Rodis, and Louie Ocampo

Francisco Dizon, Ernest Cu, and Marin Tornberg

Nokia's Rhomel Marcojos, Joanne Racoma, Luanne Erni, and Gary Valenciano

Archie Rodriguez, Bea Valdez, and Anton Mendoza

The Globe Platinum Privilege Club understands the meaning of lasting commitments and cherished bonds, with an array of personalized and exclusive services for its esteemed members.

Bledes Flores, Luis Terry, Margarita Fores, Ito Feliciano and Rhett Eala

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2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

CHARMING racers. Sheree, Diana Zubiri and Raven Villanueva

The daredevil and the 'Assumptionista' in me

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

CELEBRITIES, sports and charity seem to be a winning combination for a successful event in these challenging times. Two recent, sports-related affairs allowed me to expand my wardrobe to include sporty, casual chic attire. But I quickly realize that such is my least favorite look since it requires minimal accessories and playing with a wig and feathers is disastrous.

Not that I've been able to play anyway. During my recent holiday in Greece, apparently I brought home the ultimate Olympic souvenir—I am now in my first trimester for a 2005 baby! So my workout schedule, which included belly-dancing, flamenco, badminton, triathlon and yoga, have been put on hold for now and I am officially a sports *salingpusa*.

At the recent Nivea Celebrity Karting Challenge, I have never seen such a large gathering of show-biz glitterati and political fritterati battling it out at the Manila Speedzone tracks. I actually tried karting in their old location near Antipolo. In what can only be described as a good move, Belgian owner **Hans Desmet** decided to relocate to the more accessible The Fort.

Is it politically incorrect to call myself a woman driver? My screams were louder than

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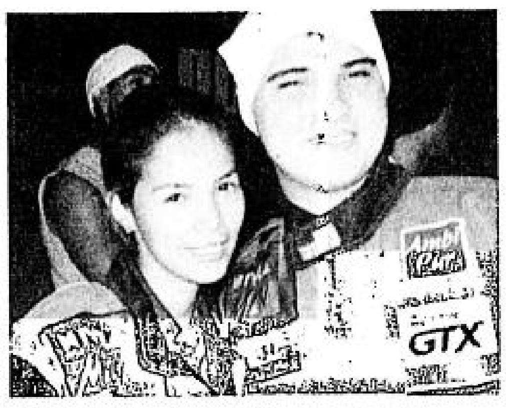
INQUIRER badminton belles Apples Aberin Sadhwani and Gem Padilla; and Paolo Bediones

ASSUMPTION Batch '81 with Martin Nievera

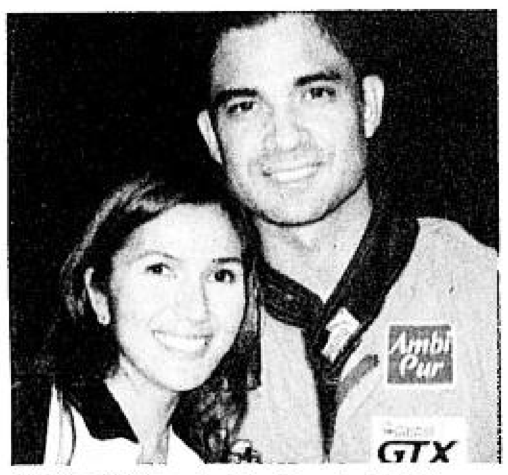
PHOTOS BY WILLY SAW

The daredevil and the 'Assumptionista' in me

I went karting against the best and ended last, and smashed shuttlecocks with celebrities and ended . . . quite smashed

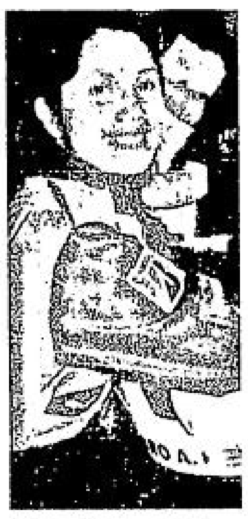


SEXY Patricia Javier with young racer Alfonso Martinez



RIGHTLINK Productions' Jessica Rodriguez and hubby David Bunevacz

AMBI Pur men's winners Paolo Valenciano, Dominic Ochoa and Richard Gomez



PRETTY Agot Isidro

CHAMPION Men's Relay Challenge: Rep. Albert Garcia, Ramon Christopher, Richard Gutierrez and Tonton Gutierrez

From page G1

the engine! I would cut the curves with my screeches, sounding like engine trouble, and that wasn't even an official race. If I joined the Nivea race, I would have garnered the Turtle Lap award that went to sexy actress **Diana Zubiri**. Never mind, the racing jumpsuit looked so good on her it's hard to believe that one breast size fits all.

With the curvaceous Viva Hot Babes waving the flags, the spectators could barely keep their eyes on the race, except for notable exceptions like supportive mom, **Angeli Valenciano**, cheering for her son **Paolo**. Eldest son of Mr. Pure Energy **Gary V**, this natural driver was the Ambi Pur Individual Male fastest lap winner, beating racing giants like **Richard Gomez** and **Dominic Ochoa**. Proud Angeli was so thrilled; she e-mailed me five photos of her son's victory. It was such a surprise because Paolo had only a couple of runs a week before the race.

I met up with Sen. **Mar Roxas** at the ribbon-cutting of the Negros Trade Fair, and the Nivea Challenge was still on our minds. He told me that he placed and ended in the same slot as I and told me not to tell anyone. (Shh! It was 29th place!) Maybe he was not too inspired since his only girl, **Korina Sanchez**, only arrived after his race.

New hair harbor

As usual, I was juggling multiple events, so I had to quickly leave because I was the guest of honor at the new hair salon of **Eric Maningat**, Studio 546 in the Shangri-La Plaza Mall. One of my favorite makeup stylists, Eric is in charge of making me look good for my HSBC and General Motors print ads. So I was overjoyed that his parlor is directly across Urban Spa and Preview editor **Pauline Suaco-Juan**'s Nail Spa on the fifth floor of the mall. Now I can plan a whole day, total makeover, all in one corner of the mall!

'Colegiala' badminton

My next big sport-viewing event was my own Assumption Batch '81 Badminton tournament at the new Zone courts in Makati. The fund-raising affair was sponsored by PLDT, Adidas, Metropolitan Athletic Club, Metropolitan at Rockwell, RFM, HSBC, Volvo, Human, Yamaha, Gosen and, of course, INQUIRER.

If it weren't for their support and the rest of the minor sponsors, I don't think all our efforts to help fund the school's Mother Rose Auditorium and also its mission schools would have been successful. I realized that there are just so many kind and generous beings still passionate about helping the country even if it seems like an uphill challenge. Or maybe we just twisted their arms too hard and abused our friendships! Either way super thanks to all of the wonderful sponsors who supported the Assumption.

On top of their financial support, a notable few also generously gave of their time. PLDT chair Manny Pangilinan and INQUIRER chair **Marixi Prieto** (What are moms for?) played a VIP match, which pitted humble and endearing Mr. P partnered with Filipina Badminton Olympian **Weena Lim** against equally humble and endearing Mrs. P, partnered with National Team player **Wally Fernandez**. And who won that match? Well, let's just say the Assumption did. Thanks to all!

The match was a close one, though. Wally had to play his cards right because PLDT sponsored his trip to compete at the US Badminton Open with the rest of the Philippine Team, including our top player, Kennyvic **Asuncion**. Practically straight from the airport, both Wally and Kennyvic still played impressive demo matches that left all of us amateur players just so aware of the difference between hitting our leisurely lobs and their swatting 120-kph smashes.

Equally impressive was first-time player HSBC president **Warner Manning**. He gets my award for Most Sporting CEO! An excellent squash player, Warner had never touched a badminton racquet and yet he almost won with his partner, pretty **Cita Yabut**, against my ex-tennis player hubby, **Dennis**, who combined with fun **Gina Godinez**. Gina also happens to be the sister of my fave crooner and buddy, **Martin Nievera**, who surprised us and graced the event in between his busy schedule. An avid player, he told me he would play in the next year's tourney.

Celebrities

What's a charity event without celebrity stars? Gorgeous hunk, *numero uno* **Diether Ocampo**, played with all-around athlete **Dyan Castillejo**, who brought her crew from "Sports Unlimited" to cover the event. "S-Files" host **Paolo Bediones** (he has an instructional video, by the way) and TV stunner and INQUIRER columnist **Cory Quirino** cut the ribbon with Zone owner **Vina Concepcion Monasterio**. INQUIRER badminton belles Apples Aberin-Sadhwani and Gem Padilla showed that their beauty and strength are unbeatable. And cute, spunky singer **Kitchie Nadal** almost sang for us.

After all the sponsored Gosen rackets, Adidas bags and Rustan's gifts had been given to the winners, and raffle prizes from JVC and Nokia had been won, I had the Freeway Dance winners from Miriam High School perform their closing number since our own Assumption girls didn't have a dance ready.

Fun, sports, charity, generous executives, wonderful celebrity stars and just good ol' regular folks like classmates from high school —these are the best elements for a successful event that leaves everyone's hearts happy.

E-mail the author at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

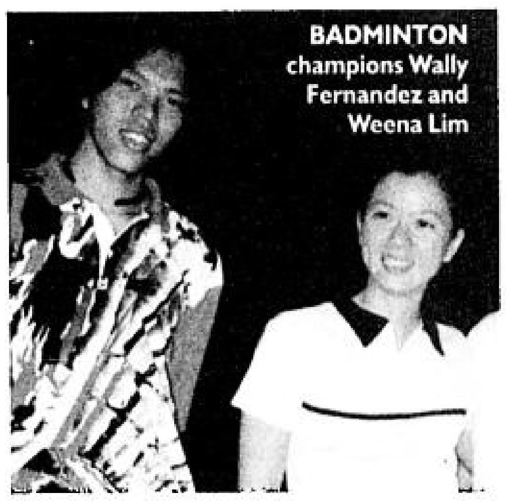
INQUIRER chair Marixi Prieto and PLDT's Manny Pangilinan

HUNK Diether Ocampo and RFM couple Marissa and Joey Concepcion

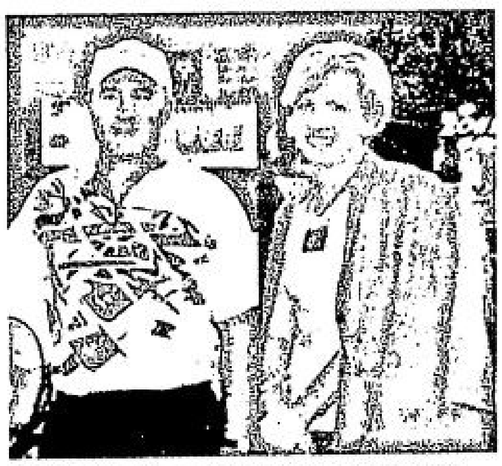
ZONE owner Vina Concepcion Monasterio and Betchay Monserrat

NOKIA 6110i winner Lindy Pellicer Magnaye, Gina Godinez and Janet Campos

SPEEDZONE racers Dyan Castillejo, Marc Nelson, Bernard Palanca, Mico Palanca and Geoff Rodriguez



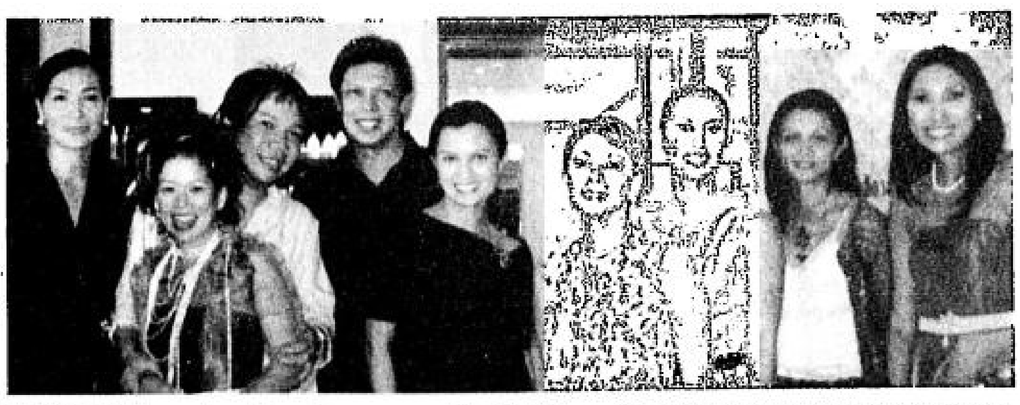
BADMINTON champions Wally Fernandez and Weena Lim



HSBC CEO Warner Manning and wife Julie

VOLVO boss Albert Arcilla, Carmela Puyat and Bing Javelosa-Ongsiako

ADIDAS gear for Assumption Batch '81 members Peaches Luciano-Jimenez, Carolyn Trota-Salud, Jaki Palma, Popsie Gamboa and Meg Soriano-Roque



STUDIO 546 opening. Tina Ocampo, me, Patrick Rosas, Eric Maningat, Daphne Oreña- Paez, Lala Fojas , Yvette Ilagan, Pauline Suaco-Juan and Chalk Religioso

Meeting on making schools 'faith communities'

THE FIRST National Convention of Campus Ministry will be held Oct. 20-22, at the Grand Ballroom of Westin Philippine Plaza.

The event is hosted by the Campus Ministry of the Ministry for Youth Affairs of the Archdiocese of Manila, in partnership with the University of Santo Tomas.

Theme of the convention is Transforming Schools into Faith Communities. The convention has two objectives: to initiate a national movement that will provide an alternative environment to students by transforming schools into faith communities; and to create a national structure that will facilitate the growth and sustainability of the movement.

Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales has endorsed the convention, saying education plays a pivotal role in energizing the kingdom of God on Earth through the building of faith communities in school campuses.

School administrators, youth campus ministers, chaplains, student leaders and concerned parents are invited to attend the convention.

Call 7353390 or 7366589.

A Halloween of fun and prizes

HALLOWEEN at SM Supermalls until Nov. 2 means fun and prizes for tenants and customers.

A competition for the spookiest store window display will be held until Oct. 28. Winners will receive plaques of appreciation and P20,000, grand prize; P10,000, second prize; and P5,000, third prize.

Young shoppers will have a chance to meet the five Winx fairies and have their photograph taken with Teena, fairy of technology; Musa, fairy of music; Flora, fairy of nature; Stella, fairy of the sun and moon; and Bloom, fairy of the wind at 4 p.m., Oct. 31. They just have to present a receipt for a minimum P300 purchase from any SM mall tenant.

A fashion show will feature the fairies in their costumes while the Winx Club Show includes a video showing their adventures. The activities are scheduled for today, SM City Manila and SM City Sta. Mesa; Oct. 24, SM City Fairview and SM City Dasmariñas; and Oct. 30, SM City Bacoor and SM City North Edsa.

Customers can also join the Masquerade Party at SM Megamall Megastrip and SM City Cebu Fiesta Strip Oct. 30 wearing their scariest masks and costumes. The event will feature live bands and celebrity guests.

Prizes will be given for best hairstyles. Tokens will be given to guests in costumes.

Kids can join the Halloween Costume Contest. Prizes will be given for Most Mystical/Magical Costume, Most Original/Creative Costume and Funniest Costume.

Registration is until Oct. 31. Winners will be announced at 10 a.m. of the same day.

Happy Birthday

Make your birthday wish come true at Storyland! Have the grandest celebration and be treated to a blowout of a lifetime. Spend your special day with our lovable and huggable characters: Lionel, Ellie, Sgt. March, and Eggbert. As a special treat, get the following for FREE:

- Party Hosting
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- Character Meet & Greet
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- One-of-a-kind candle blowing experience
- FUN Rides & Games
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LA HERMOSA FESTIVAL
2004

FIESTA FEVER HITS ZAMBOANGA

Another year has elapsed and the spotlight once again shines on Zamboanga as the locals took to the city's streets to celebrate the colorful La Hermosa Festival 2004. And being the biggest festival celebrated in Mindanao every October, scores of tourists flocked to the southern city in droves to join in the festivities as well.

With SMART Buddy, Talk 'N Text and SMART Load as proud sponsors, you could be sure that the fun factor would be on overdrive. The Floral Float Parade was a sight to behold as the convoy wheeled along the narrow streets of the city, wowing the crowd at every turn. Traditional La Hermosa activities like the Street Dancing Competition and Regatta de Zamboanga were also highlights of the fiesta. And if that weren't enough, a relentless blitz of concerts, bar tours, beauty pageants, sports contests and exhibits rocked Zamboanga while creating the electrifying ambiance that La Hermosa has become known for.

For all SMART Buddy, Talk 'N Text and SMART Load subscribers, partying in Zamboanga was made all the more convenient thanks to the 3,500 and growing SMART cell sites that give its subscribers the widest coverage anywhere in the country. And with SMART being the leader in wireless, leader in innovation, SMART Buddy offered its powerful 64K Super Sim 2, while Talk 'N Text subscribers can now experience the Talk 'N Text Mega SIM. As most people already know, only SMART offers the best deals on the latest phones for new subscribers when they sign up for what is considered to be the most advanced network in the country.

So as the festival draws to a close, you can be sure that SMART will continue to bring you more fun and exciting events, while continuing to deliver nothing but the best in world-class innovations and services that you deserve.

Smart Buddy

MEGA SALE EVENT OF THE YEAR IN 5 SM SUPERMALLS NATIONWIDE

Get ready for the holidays! Shop early and save on great selections mallwide during the 3-DAY SALE happening in SM MEGAMALL ORTIGAS, SM CITY BACOOR, SM CITY DAVAO, SM CITY ILOILO and SM CITY MARILAO on October 15, 16 and 17:

Last chance to grab those items at great, great discounts! Check out SM Department Store for more bargains, SM Supermarket and Super SM Hypermarket (in SM City Marilao) for fantastic grocery buys, SM Foodcourt for great meal deals and more of your favorite stuff at Surplus Shop, Watsons, SM Appliance Center, ACE Hardware, Our Home, Toy Kingdom and other specialty shops mallwide!

3-DAY SALE MEGA SHOPPING STARTS FROM 10:00 AM til 10:00 PM.

MEGA SALE AT THE SM MEGAMALL!

Enjoy the SALE event at the biggest and most favorite shopping destination. Do your early Christmas shopping and enjoy great discounts from food to fashion, personal care products, home furnishings, toys, novelties and much more! **Watch out for a new and exciting SM MEGAMALL coming your way soon!**

Fri Sat Sun
Oct. 15 16 17
up to
50% off
great selections
3-day sale
mall hours:
10am - 10pm
MEGAMALL ORTIGAS
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with every P500 single or accumulated purchase at SM Department Store, Super SM Hypermarket/ SM Supermarket or any participating mall establishments.

See poster for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2259, Series of 2004

Per DTI-ILOILO Permit No. 9-64-305, Series of 2004. Per DTI-DCFO Permit No. 199, Series of 2004 Per DTI-BULACAN Permit No. 878, Series of 2004

The Megastrip

SM MEGAMALL's strip of trendy restos and hip cafés along J. Vargas Road (between Bldgs. A and B) has just added two new flavors to tease your discriminating taste buds. Check out **Rasa Express** (*Singaporean*) and **Teriyaki Boy** (*Japanese*) over lunch or dinner. Also, enjoy fun, live entertainment during weekend nights!

CYBERZONE

Grab the latest in cellphones and I.T. Gadgets at really great discounts! Check out more promo offers at the **Cyberzone, 4th Level of Megamall Building B.**

Shop at SM MEGAMALL during the 3-DAY SALE for a chance to WIN:

LG Life's Good Refrigerators

Oct. 15 (Fri) - 1 unit 10.1 cu ft LG Refrigerator
- 2 units 13.1 cu ft LG Refrigerators
Oct. 16 (Sat) - 4 units 13.1 cu ft LG Refrigerators
Oct. 17 (Sun) - 4 units 13.1 cu ft LG Refrigerators

Daily Raffle starts at 9:30pm at the Upper Ground Floor (Bldg A) near McDonald's.

SHOP AND WIN AT SM CITY BACOOR

Not to miss this weekend is the much awaited 3-DAY SALE of SM CITY BACOOR! The mall has been known to offer really good and exciting bargains during SALE! Check out SM Department Store for more special offers or other stores mallwide for great finds!

Plus, a chance to WIN HANABISHI® Your Satisfaction is our Guarantee Home and Kitchen Appliances during the raffle.

Oct. 15 (Fri)
26 units Hanabishi Stand Fans
26 units Hanabishi Industrial Fans
16 units Hanabishi Double Burner Gas Stoves
10 units Hanabishi Electric Ovens

Oct. 16 (Sat) & 17 (Sun)
27 units Hanabishi Stand Fans
27 units Hanabishi Industrial Fans
17 units Hanabishi Double Burner Gas Stoves
10 units Hanabishi Electric Ovens

Daily Raffle starts at 10:00pm at the Lower Ground Floor near SM Foodcourt Area.

SUPER SHOPPING TREATS AT SM CITY MARILAO

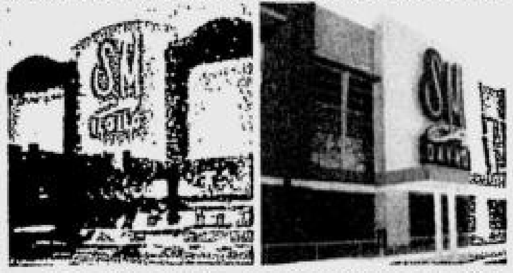
Real bargains, special treats and fantastic rewards await Bulakeños this weekend. Hunt for some great bargains at the SM Department Store and all other specialty stores mallwide! Watch out for the Fireworks Display on October 15 (Fri) at 7:30pm. Get your kids entertained by the Mascot parade, as well as Drum and Lyre performances on October 16 (Sat) and 17 (Sun) at 11:00am.

Plus, a total of 240 units of HANABISHI® Home and kitchen Appliances to be won during the 3-DAY SALE Raffle!

Get a chance to WIN
80 units Hanabishi Stand Fans
80 units Hanabishi Industrial Fans
50 units Hanabishi Double Burner Gas Stoves
30 units Hanabishi Electric Ovens

Daily Raffle starts at 9:15pm at SM CITY MARILAO Entertainment Plaza.

GREAT BUYS IN ILOILO AND DAVAO



Great discounts, special offers and raffle prizes await shoppers of SM CITY ILOILO and SM CITY DAVAO. From food to fashion, the list goes endless for hot items at low, low prices!

Plus, a total of 240 units of HANABISHI® Home and kitchen Appliances (per mall) to be won during the 3-DAY SALE Raffle!

Shop over the weekend for a chance to WIN
80 units Hanabishi Stand Fans
80 units Hanabishi Industrial Fans
50 units Hanabishi Double Burner Gas Stoves
30 units Hanabishi Electric Ovens

SM CITY ILOILO and SM CITY DAVAO Daily Raffle starts from October 15, 16 and 17 at 12:00 noon/ 2:00 pm/ 4:00pm/ 6:00 and 8:00pm

Customer gets one (1) raffle coupon for every P300 single or accumulated purchase at the SM Department Store, SM Supermarket, SM Foodcourt or participating mall tenants (food and non-food).

Get one (1) trial pack of Pigeon Baby Wipes with a minimum of P100 single receipt purchase at SM FOODCOURT of SM Megamall, SM Bacoor, SM Iloilo, SM Davao and SM Marilao.

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ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

'My grandson Miguel made Apple Dapples until everyone in the compound got cross-eyed eating them. But he perfected the recipe'

Ask my wife

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

WHEN you have been married for over 50 years, some interviewer is bound to come around thinking you have become some expert at child-rearing. Well, one did find us last year. He talked to my husband who said, "Ask my wife." The guy must have been sorely disappointed because he never wrote up our interview.

At three, I told him, my grandson Juaneo's professed ambition was to be a dinosaur, a T-Rex to be exact. At four, Chin-Chin wanted to be a vampire. The then 2-year-old Miguel just wanted to be an "Idodot," you know, the costumed brave dancing in Mines View Park. When I asked teenaged Majalya last year whether I could buy her a faux fur handbag that I would have killed to own, she said: "No thanks, I want to be President of the Philippines." What was wrong with my upbringing? Of them? Of their parents?

I remember when I was a corporate wife, I would go to Auggie Cordero when I needed some socially correct dress to wear to a cocktail party. Auggie had an assistant called Sammy, who was a soft-spoken, well-behaved gay. Sammy's shoulder-length hair was always coiffed in a neat page-boy. He wore a stylish trubenized white shirt, slim khaki pants and a thin belt. He sat with his legs together at a slant like nice girls do. Auggie had trained him well.

Sometimes my daughter Wendy, then in her early teens, would come with me to Auggie's atelier. Wendy often sat any which way, her skirt harum-scarum, her legs any direction. On the way home I'd say, "Why can't you be like Sammy? He's the epitome of decorum, just intimate Sammy."

Years later, when she was already married and still with skirts every which way, I'd ask Wendy why she couldn't be more demure, you know, more ladylike? And she'd retort, "Because Sammy was the role model you gave me, and he's a guy!"

Well, Wendy grew up with no gender biases. She had three sons one after the other. Since she is artistic, she designed little shirts for them until they were 1 or 2 years old. She would use really good cloth like remnants of my *piña* or Indian sari, or embroidered dresses, and it didn't matter if they were pink. The infants looked great in those fabrics.

When one of the little fellows who wore borderless clothes became Grade 4, his enlightened art teacher assigned the class to bring a pair of shorts to school. To paint and stitch, oh yes, with needle and thread. Carlo's was a masterpiece (according to his mom). It had splashes of paint and running stitches all over.

So of course, I wanted a pair of pants with stitches all over, too. I bribed Carlo with enough money to buy a Ragnarok he wanted. After three excruciating months he was finally able, with his stubby fingers, to fill my pants with stitched outlines of fruits like mangoes and grapes and strawberries. It was beautiful. In a small corner he had sewn: "Art by Carlo."

Now Carlo is not the least bit effeminate. I was so pleased with my pants I wanted to show the head teacher what my grandson had made extracurricularly. But his older brothers Franco and Io said, "Please don't, *kawawa si* Carlo. His classmates will make fun of him and call him a sissy." "For sewing my pants?" I asked incredulously, "*Di suntukin niya!*" But my husband,

ASK/H3

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Bago pumunta sa mall o grocery.
Habang nag-e-enjoy kayo, ginagawang
dengue-safe ang bahay niyo.

LA INMACULADA Concepcion, by Ponce Veridiano

NUESTRA Señora de las Flores, by Antonio Garcia of Mabolo

NUESTRA Señora del Rosario de San Pablo by Rachy Cuna, from the collection of the Escudero Family BETOY JOHNSON

Cofradia honors the Blessed Virgin

IMELDA Cojuangco, founding chair of Cofradia BETOY JOHNSON

IN CELEBRATION of its 25th anniversary, the Cofradia De La Inmaculada Concepcion recently presented the Noche Para La Virgen Maria at the NBC Tent in Fort Bonifacio.

Chair Imelda Cojuangco leads devotees of the Cofradia De La Inmaculada in efforts to intensify devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Noche Para La Virgen Maria was a night to renew this commitment to the Blessed Mother, as a source of strength among Filipinos.

Participated in by the country's best floral designers and decorators, the event showcased an array of beautiful presentations of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mabolo's Antonio Garcia paid tribute to the Nuestra Señora De Las Flores, from the collection of Cojuangco, with a profusion of pink roses and orchids.

Toni Serrano-Parsons designed a healthy blend of colors and textures in celebration of the Nuestra Señora Del Santissimo Rosario De La Naval De Manila, from the collection of the Alino family.

1816's Robert Blancaflor served up white roses for Nuestra Señora De La Victoria, from the collection of Dona Victoria L. Vda. De Tengco.

Rachy Cuna's ornate decoration was a fitting tribute to the Nuestra Señora Del Rosario de San Pablo, from the collection of the Escudero family.

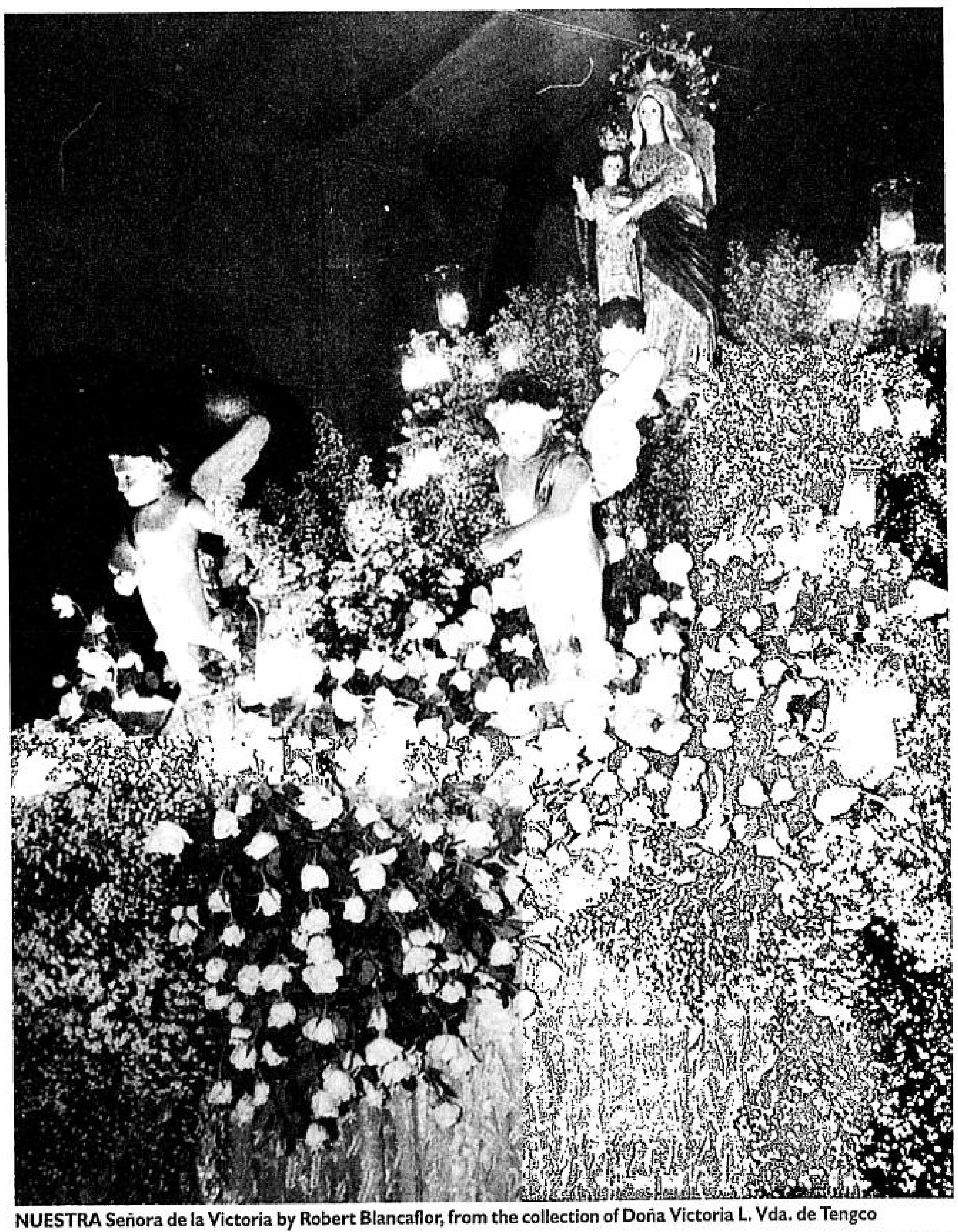
And Ponce Veridiano, utilizing all white flowers, gave glory to the La Inmaculada Concepcion, from the collection of the Intramuros administration.

Noche Para La Virgen Maria began with a Eucharistic celebration headed by Archbishop Gaudencio B. Rosales, who blessed the images.

Afterward, an exhibit was launched featuring the works of Ramon Orlina. The noted glass sculptor presented a series of Mother and Child works, while Robert Sena and Isay Alvarez performed a very inspiring "Seranata."

Devotees and members present at the event included Cofradia 25th celebration ad hoc committee members Imelda Cojuangco, Aurora Eizmendi, Fe Rodriguez, Helen Ong and Danny Dolor.

Capping the event was a silent auction of beautiful pieces of Mauro Malang Santos, Arturo Luz, Soler Santos, paintings from the Metrobank Foundation, Pitoy Moreno, Ben Farrales, Patis Tesoro, El Cirkulo, Jo-Liza Antiques, Jewelmer and Evie Costa.


NUESTRA Señora de la Victoria by Robert Blancaflor, from the collection of Doña Victoria L. Vda. de Tengco BETOY JOHNSON

NUESTRA Señora del Santissimo Rosario de la Naval de Manila by Toni Parsons, from the collection of the Alinio Family BETOY JOHNSON

TABLE centerpiece arrangement by Ponce Veridiano BETOY JOHNSON

TABLE centerpiece arrangement by Antonio Garcia of Mabolo BETOY JOHNSON

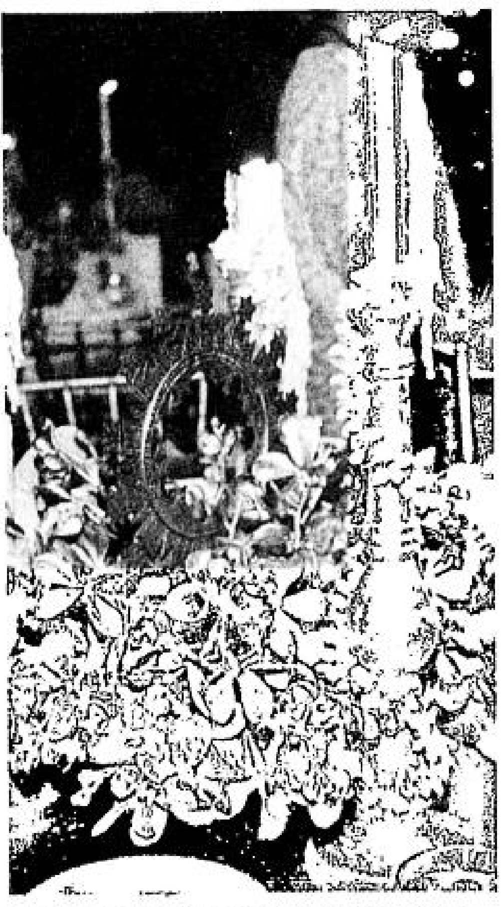


TABLE centerpiece arrangement by Rachy Cuna BETOY JOHNSON

TABLE centerpiece arranged by Toni Parsons of 517 Flower Company BETOY JOHNSON

TABLE centerpiece arrangement by Robert Blancaflor of 1816

Ask my wife

From page H1

who's another macho who never owned a pair of embroidered pants, ordered me just to keep quiet about it.

Kiddie cooking

When they were kids, my granddaughters Majalya and Chin-Chin got for Christmas a large play stove with a coil that lighted and a sink that could pump real water. They would cut real vegetables with the plastic cleaver and put them in the pan "to cook." And guess who insisted on cooking with them? Their then 2-year-old cousin Quinito. And he was a more intense and assiduous cook than the girls, seriously ladling vegetables and stirring the pan and all. His mother was so flustered she brought out Quinito's new helicopter to distract him. But he was not to be derailed, so completely engrossed was he in "frying" and "pouring coffee." Until, I guess, she realized that Quinito sometimes sees his father, my son Arcus, cooking breakfast too, and it was okay for all of us after that.

My own sons, Bey (now dead), Mol (49) and Arcus (45), learned to cook out of sheer self-defense, otherwise they would have had to eat our maid's cooking. But they had inherited their father's tastebuds, the best of which had been allotted to Mol. And so, Miguel, Mol's son, at seven, was already a good cook like his dad. Ever since he was five, his father would sit him on the kitchen counter and let him pour in the milk, sugar, raisins or oats to stir into whatever it was Mol was cooking.

Then on Christmas someone gave Miguel a children's cookbook. From then on he preferred cooking to taking his siesta or watching cartoons. He made *polvoron*, oatmeal cookies, muffins, scones and something called Apple Dapple, which is an abbreviated apple pie. His *yaya*'s only job was to light the gas oven.

Miguel made Apple Dapples until everyone in the compound got cross-eyed eating them. But he perfected the recipe. It became the hit of our Sunday lunches. His *titos* and *titas* said they wanted to order Apple Dapple, "How much, please?" Without skipping a beat, the little tyke answered, "P88."

His father was puzzled. "How did you figure out that price?" asked Mol, who knew the amount of apples and butter that went into the recipes. "It says the price in the cookbook," Miguel said, "Look." He opened the book to the Contents page and there it was. Apple Dapple... p. 88.

Dancing with my grandchildren

What else did you think you contributed to their family life, the interviewer wanted to know. So I told him that when my grandchildren were very small, we would lock ourselves out of sight in the study and do body movement, which is simply an intuitive free-form dance. Like a prayer. We would dance in complete silence, sometimes with tea candles scattered on the floor. It was lovely to see the little boys go into themselves, becoming the dance, becoming the prayer. My husband used to call it our voodoo dance, and of course, all the adults made fun of it.

Miguel was always the best mover, the instinctive dancer, just as he is the most graceful even in kung fu. He was professional-quality even at that age and so I thought he should be given direction in some school of dance. But Mol was adamant—"Please, please, please, please, mommy *naman*! *Huwag*!" He preferred his son to just gyrate like those tiresome dancers on TV because it was "normal."

I find this is a strange thing because my now old sons should remember the days when men wouldn't be caught dead using an egg beater. Now we have evolved to the point where any male who can put anything into an oven has a crack at being a celebrity. So why can't my cooking sons help push the envelope further by freeing the machos to dance and sew? I think the chances of becoming gay are the same whether you allow your son to dance or to strap a beltful of machine gun bullets around himself.

Losing my religion

What about religion? was another question the interviewer asked me. That was tough because he looked like a guy who went to Mass. I shot a pleading glance at my husband. But he looked straight at the interviewer, grinning, "Ask my wife that, too," he said.

Like most Filipino parents, when the kids were young, we went to Mass all together. To the 6 p.m. Mass, which was the last one in those mid '60s. Every time we had to get ready it was an ordeal to peel the kids off the TV. There was a lot of scolding and pinching just to get them to dress up. It was like that for years. It was not my idea at all of God. In church nobody listened to the sermon, which was invariably soporific. The men went out to smoke or chat and came in when it was over.

Then one day the driver snitched on Dad and said that during sermon time he would cross the street to drink a beer. I realized what a farce it was. We had been born Catholics, but obviously it wasn't working and we were just too fearful to let go of our religion.

When we got home I called everybody and said, "From now on, only those who wish to go to Mass will go. The car will be at your disposal at 6 every Sunday." Two children went and two didn't. I think in religion, as in anything, one must be allowed a choice. If you are Catholic, Born Again, Muslim, Sabadista or whatever and all you get out of it is gloom and guilt, you should quit.

Maybe what saved us as parents was that we decided to be the example to our kids of scrupulous honesty, fairness, respect for rights, kindness and joy (except when we fought). God is not in the church altar, values education is not in the printed page, it is in how the people you look up to act. (End of homily.)

By the time I felt I truly knew God, the children were fully grown. But there were now—slurp!—a new set of little grandchildren to experiment on. All the nine grandchildren learned to meditate before they were 10, one as young as four. It's easy. I couldn't believe it until I practiced it after witnessing Nonoy Ozaeta in Chacra put under a whole bunch of kindergartners. The children dive into meditation much more deeply and much faster than lousy adults (maybe because they have not so long been descended from heaven). Meditation connects them to God faster than a memorized and routine prayer.

Playing dead

Do you remember anything more normal that you did with your family that I can tell our average readers about? asked the frustrated journalist.

Let's see. I didn't cook breakfast for them. I didn't sew, I was afraid of blood. Whenever one of my children had a bigger than usual gash, I'd call the *yaya* and cover my eyes while directing her to clean the wound with *agua oxigenada*, put Mercurochrome and cover with bandage and tape. I didn't fetch them to and from school either; the bus did that.

I think all I did with my children was play. I always volunteered as the "monster" and was a very popular one. I was an expert at all kinds of dying. I was always bathing in our big sunken tub with two or three of them and a wind-up mermaid. We walked in the flood (which wasn't so dirty then) and played in the mud and they got sick. Mosquitoes bit them but they didn't die.

With my grandchildren, I maybe improved a little. I invented their costumes for Filipino Week in school and insisted that the ones who talked English at home speak to me in Filipino. Every afternoon we had "tea" (fruit juice and anything from Oreos to *otap*) under the shade of a tree with chimes, and invented scary stories. When Rafa's pet turtle died, I went to the funeral wearing my best hat.

I don't think my husband was much better. He had indulged our children's every whim. He didn't believe that sparing the rod would spoil the child because kids who were severely punished bore deep resentments while those who got most of the things they wanted loved their daddies madly. One of his bookshelves was a handsomely stocked commissary with not a single healthy thing. But he was an armchair athlete and we went to public beaches (which were clean in the '60s) every Sunday because he wanted them all to be good swimmers. When I wasn't home he didn't help them with their homework. Sometimes he forgot to give them their allowance. Sometimes he boxed their ears.

But they grew up on their own, straight and happy and they loved us.

I often hear my friend Mariel worrying that since she was out of the house most of the time, maybe she had lost her children. Sometimes she felt they didn't respect or love her. They were too combative, too independent, and before she knew it they would all be working or living abroad.

I don't think there's any mother who didn't go through such phases of guilt (except the enslaved ones, but that's another looney tune altogether). Maybe Mariel wasn't a mother hen, but she is a very intelligent person who can point to references you need on any topic, and even give you an insight or two. Don't tell me that's not something one's children value! I wish I had a mother like Mariel. It would have been so useful. Instead I had a mother who dressed me up and fussed over me and she rues a mother who didn't know eye shadow.

What I took for granted was those things about clothes and beauty, which were givens in my life. I concentrated on making sure that my sons and daughter grew up emotionally secure (which, in spite of all those beauty treatments, I wasn't) and maybe have strong egos (small "e") too. I didn't even know whether I was doing right, I was just reacting to my own upbringing.

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Everyday miracle

So my kids take for granted that they're not so neurotic, not so cuckoo. What's traumatic, Arcus (now a bank executive) told me, was "my pants. I always wore hand-me-downs. You never bought me a decent pair."

One time, during basketball, he recalled, he was about to dunk and his khaki shorts split from stem to stern. His friend George (now a surgeon) had to go with him to the lavatory to staple his shorts. (I thought it was good practice for George.)

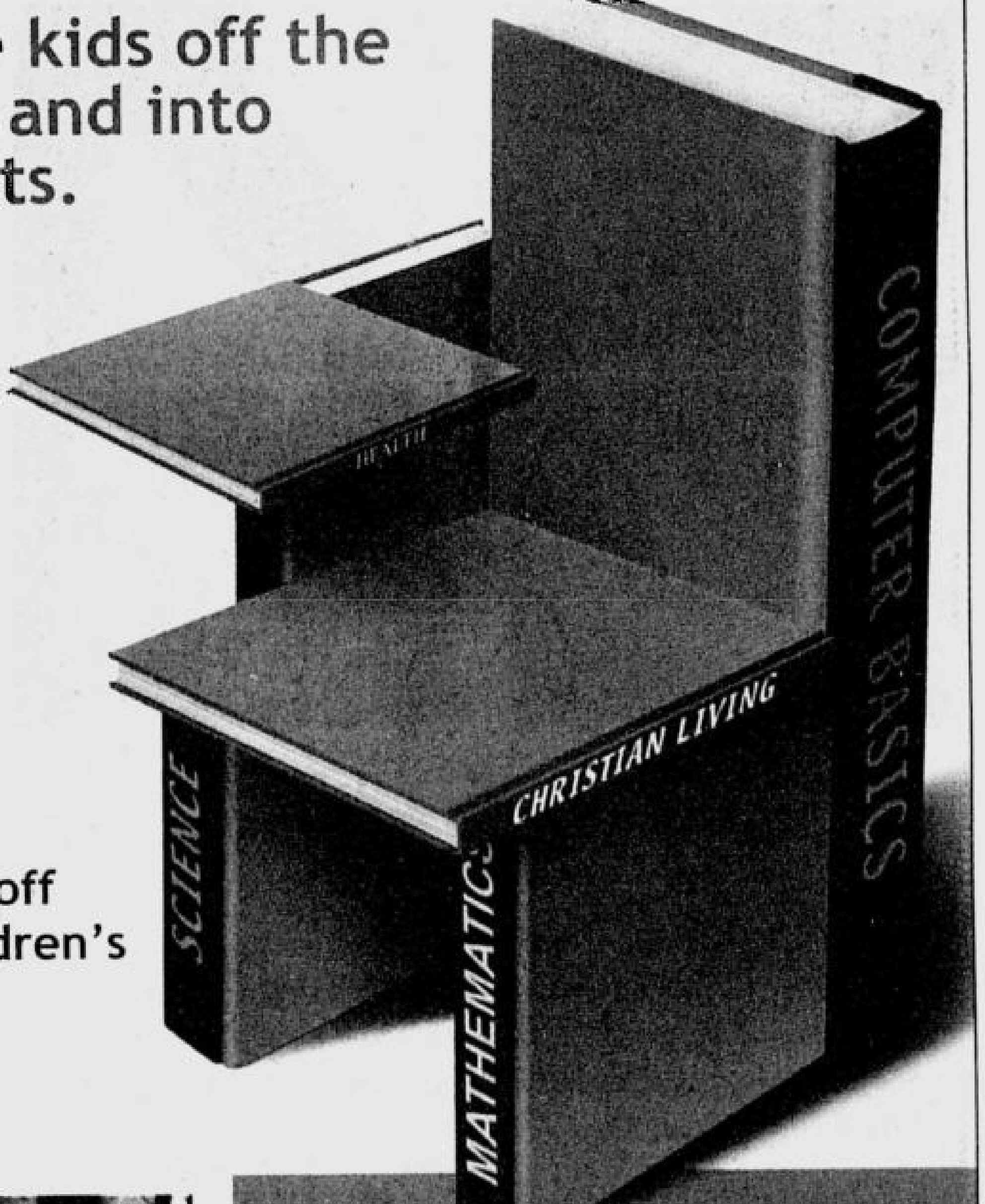
So now my son Arcus has two sons of his own, and they're the smartest-dressed kids on the block. Their imported pants never tear. Their father sees to that. But you can't cover all the bases, you can't foresee all the holes. There will surely be something he has overlooked and he, too, will be guilty like us.

But the children will forgive him and love their parents in spite of it. Like our kids love us, staplers and all. Like Mariel will find out how much she is loved when she gets a little older and her kids are married. Like even A.L. knows, who split from her husband and turned gay and yet the children grew up balanced, musical and athletic.

Somehow kids who are loved just turn out all right by themselves in spite of parents. Nobody knows how it happens. It's a miracle but it happens all the time.

The interviewer was not impressed.

> 'Somehow kids who are loved just turn out all right by themselves in spite of parents. Nobody knows how it happens. It's a miracle but it happens all the time'



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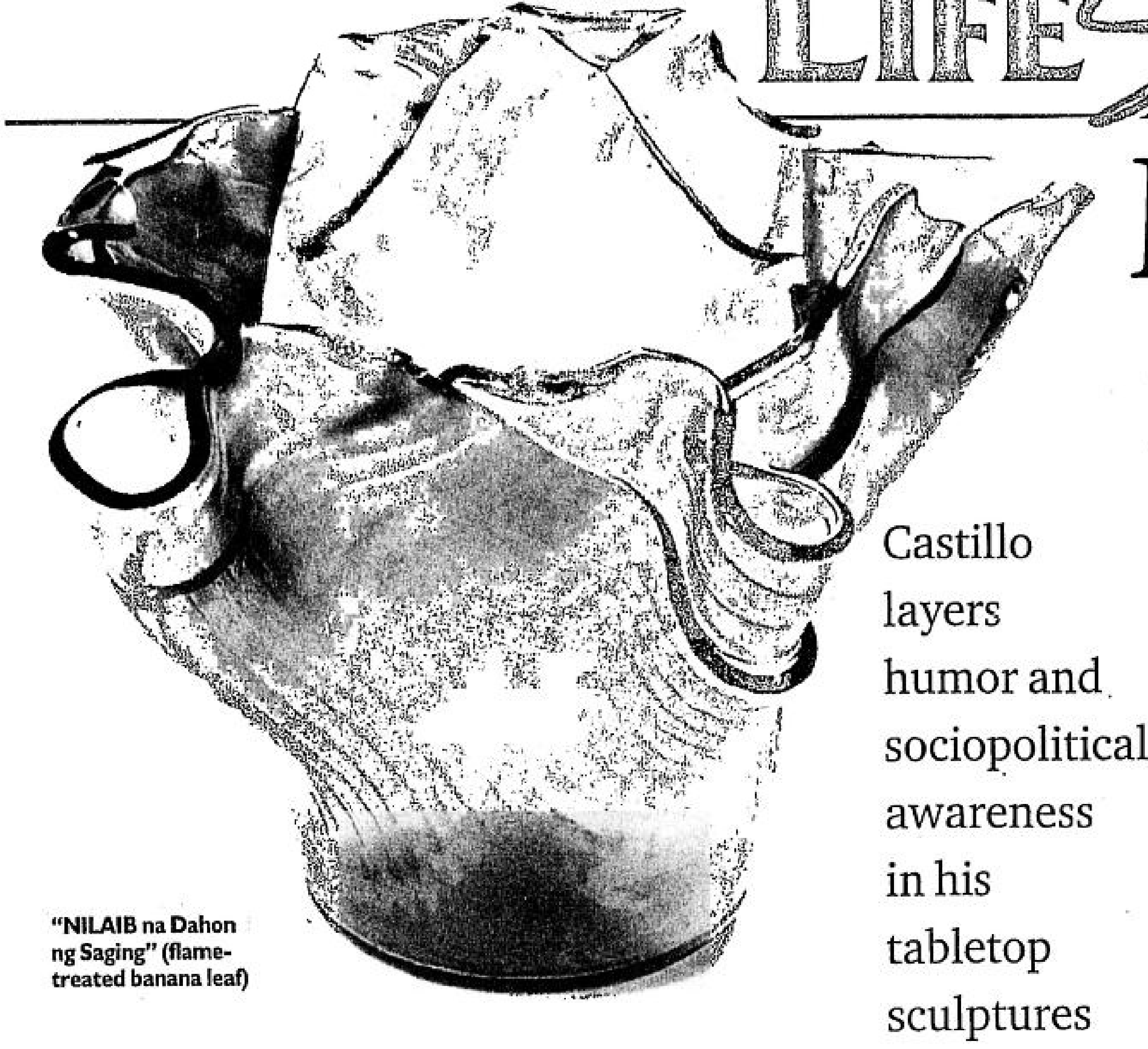

"NILAIB na Dahon ng Saging" (flame-treated banana leaf)

Memories in *glass*

Castillo layers humor and sociopolitical awareness in his tabletop sculptures

By Irene C. Perez

TO THE URBAN dweller, clear Sunday mornings spent on the riverbank eating grilled fish and steamy rice on fragrant banana leaves barehand, and unhurried afternoons taking turns on bamboo rafts, may sound foreign.

Such homely experiences have become novel since the local and the homespun are fading with every launching of the latest cellphone model. Bobby Castillo brings back a sense of locality to Filipino homes through glass sculptures idealizing nature.

In "Aspects," his fourth solo exhibit, at Borders, Castillo layers humor and sociopolitical awareness in his collection of art-glass tabletop sculptures.

"People tend to use something that's in the environment, in the vicinity. *Pero ngayon, 'yung mga* rafts, *wala na*," Castillo says.

Castillo mixes surprising elements in his creations—sugar, salt, makeup, crayons, flowers, honey, even toothpaste.

His pieces, mostly of kilnformed glass, are musings from stories, myths and riddles of his childhood in Pagsanjan, Laguna.

"Salakot," the Asian hats series of lamps and bowls, evokes Asian farming.

"Nilaib na Dahon ng Saging," about flame-

MEMORIES/12

LG Electronics Reinvents Laundry Care with its Frontload Washer

With cutting-edge design and technology, coupled with sophisticated engineering, LG Electronics (LGE), a global leader in digital home appliances, presents its unbelievably quiet frontload washer. Designed to address specific laundry needs such as energy and power consumption, fabric care, washing capacity and wrinkle control, the LG Frontload Washer reflects LG's tradition of superior performance, reliability and design.

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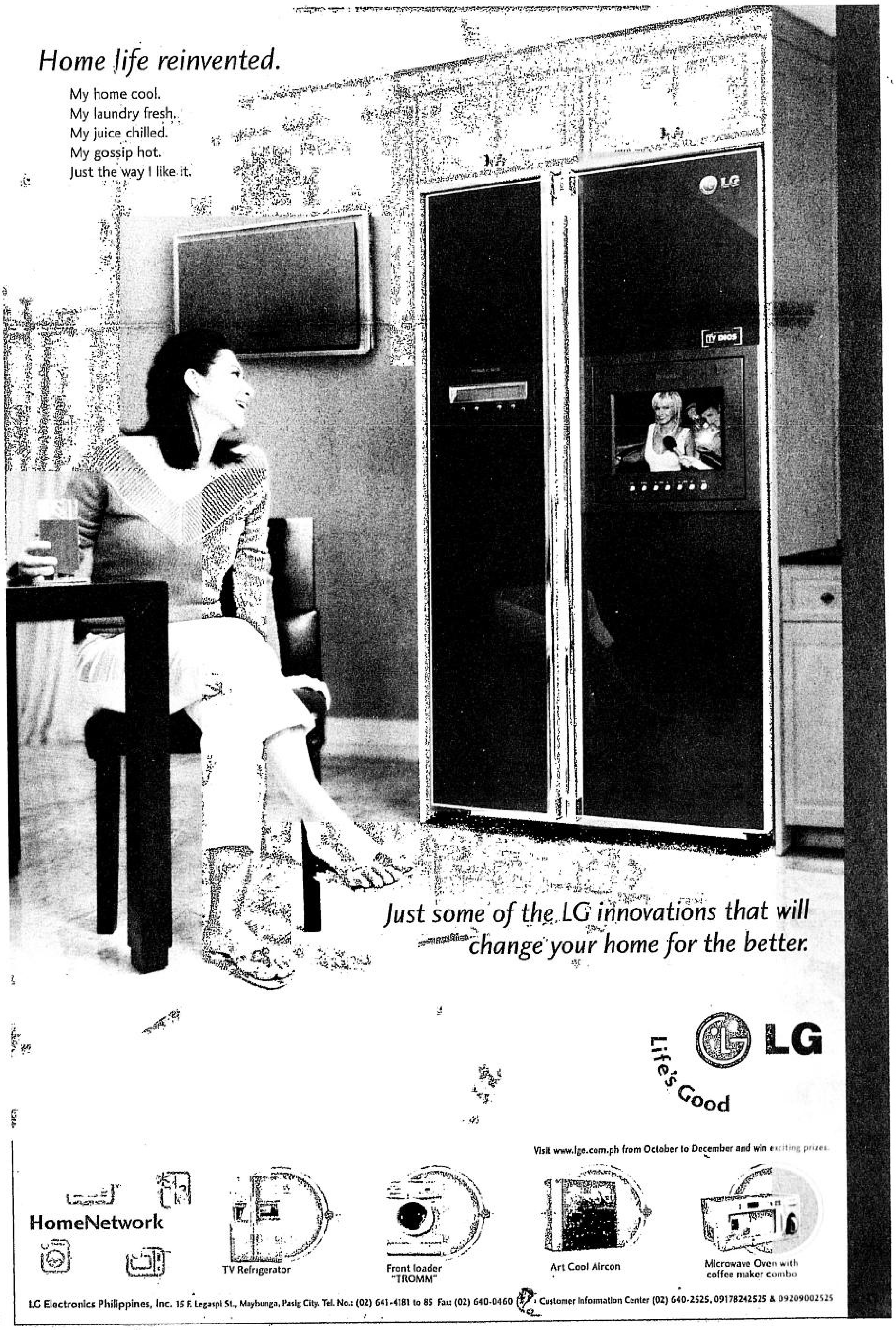

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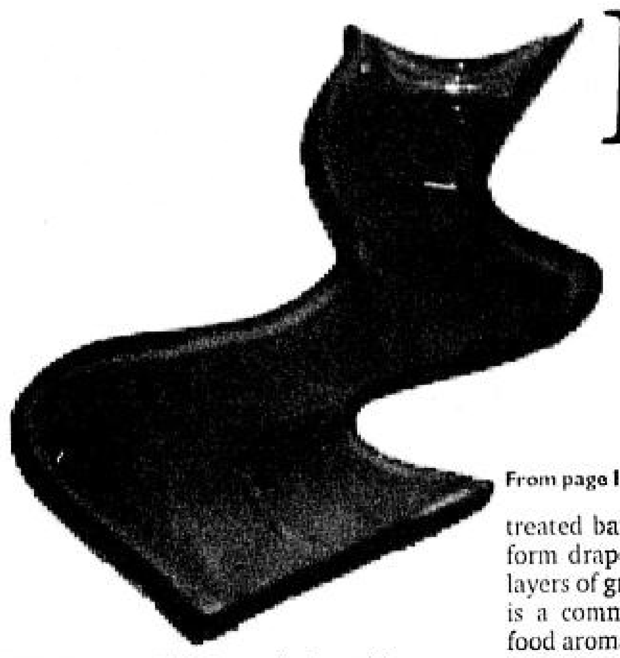
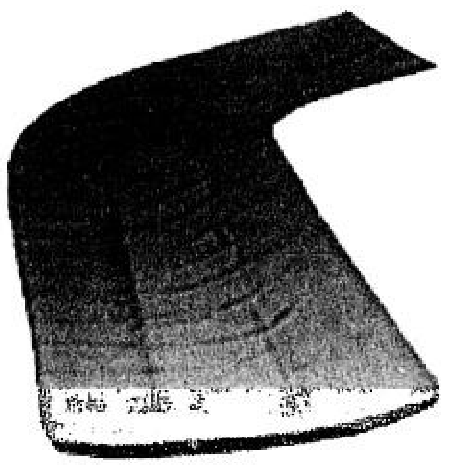
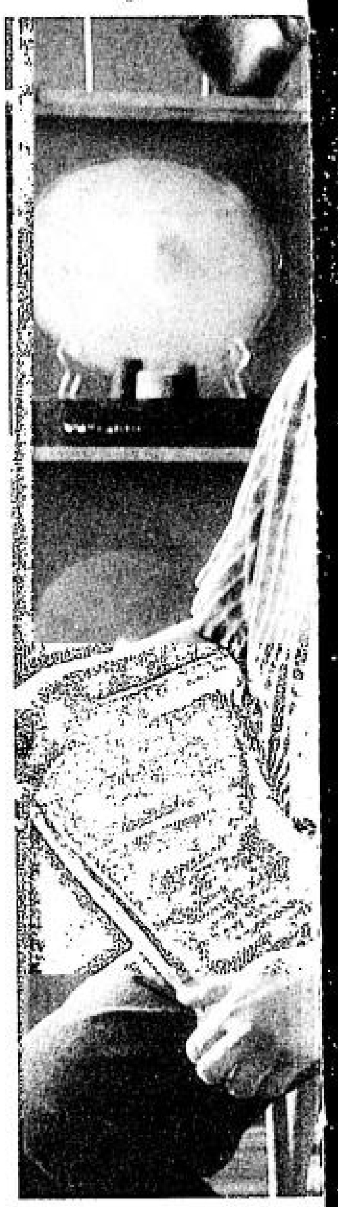
Memories in glass



CASTILLO used kilnformed glass with individually hand-applied textures in his "Highway Series."





"T

From page 11

treated banana leaves, is seen through free-form draped vessels of patterned and fused layers of green glass. Heat-wilted banana leaf is a common food-wrapper, as it enhances food aroma and flavor. But save for a few specialty restos, it has been bumped off by styrofoam and plastic microwavables.

Castillo says Mark Twain would have loved his "Balsang Kawayan," a raft made of pieces of kilnformed glass resembling bamboo poles set on coldworked glass stand.

"Kesong Lumban," a blue glass cheeseboard with pinewood insert, glorifies the cottage cheese industry—a trade that provides livelihood to natives of Lumban, Laguna.

In his "Highway Series" composed of pieces with individually hand-applied textures, Castillo wonders, "What if you could plant on those roads instead of contend with the pressures and frustrations of being stuck in traffic?"

'Incomplete art'

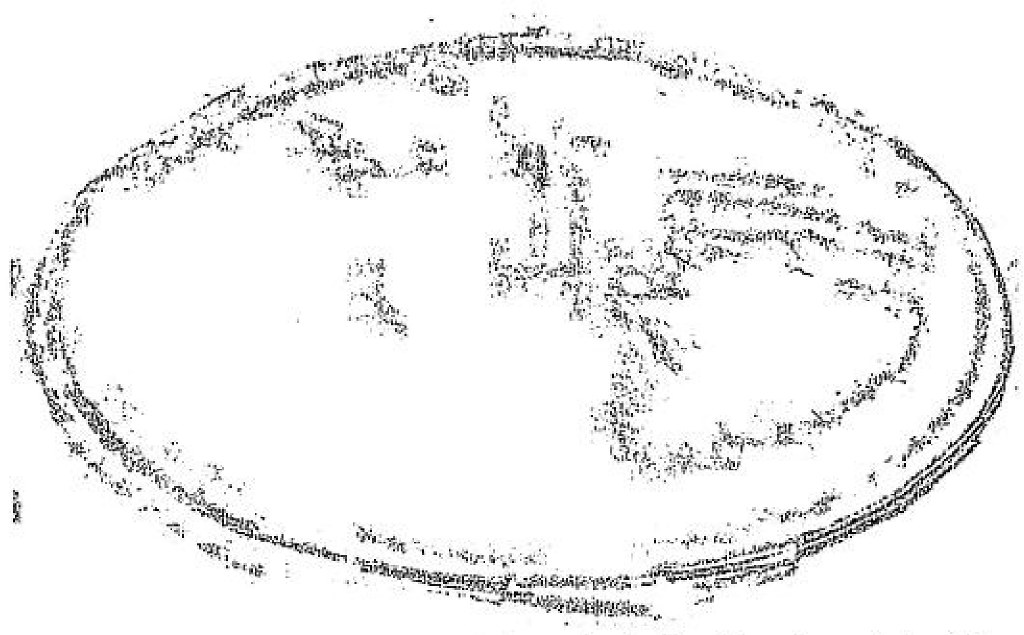
An artist by "accident" (he was in the food business before shifting to glass manufacturing), Castillo describes himself as a minimalist who is open to variety. He says his works are unfinished but functional.

"They are not complete on their own. The function depends on the user, how he makes use of it. *Hindi buo* ang meaning *hangga't hindi mo kinukulit*," he says.

Some people have described these pieces that ask for completion as having "understated elegance."

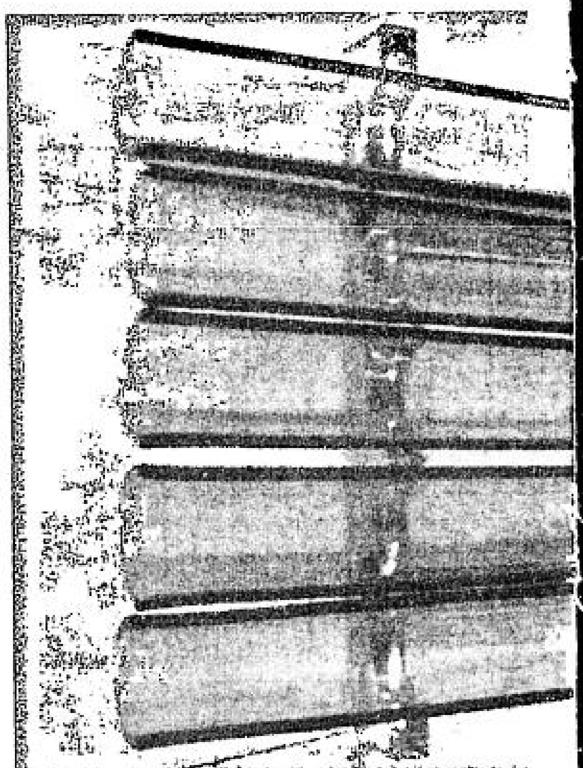
"It takes more courage to [make a statement] with just a line or two. To be able to put this out, to sell it, *kailangan pala malakas ang loob mo*. Because you have to take out all of the other elements and show it in its naked reality."

Castillo used to do very complicated things that evolved into very simple items. It is all a matter of satisfying his curiosity and creativity. He was "discovered" by designer Rachy Cuna. He usually consults artists Lao Lianben, Arturo Luz and Jose Mendoza.



"SALAKOT," the Asian Hats Series of fused, slumped and painted glass, is a reminder of the simple life of Asian farming homes.

FRE
laye



ONE of the grandest pieces in the collection, "Balsa
taking turns on a bamboo raft on the river.

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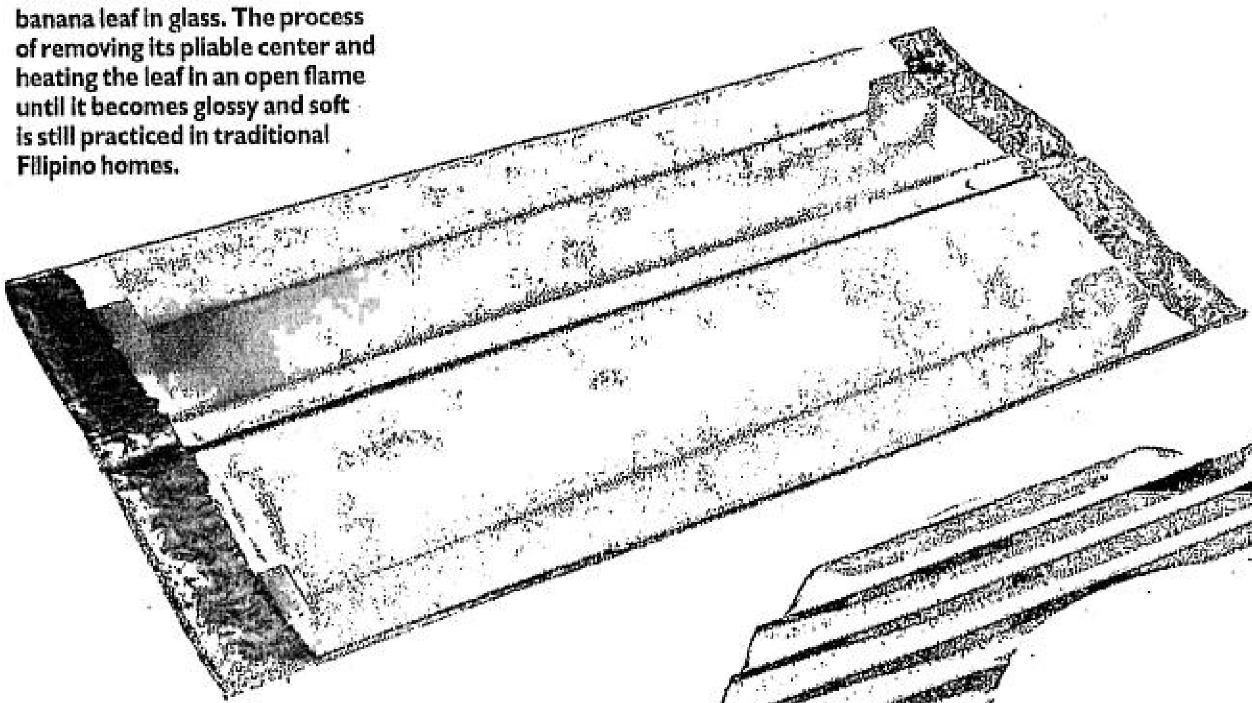
HESE are unfinished works. The function depends on the user. You may put them in the kitchen, tabletop, bathroom, use them to serve food. You have to complete them," Castillo says.



CASTILLO romanticizes the banana leaf in glass. The process of removing its pliable center and heating the leaf in an open flame until it becomes glossy and soft is still practiced in traditional Filipino homes.

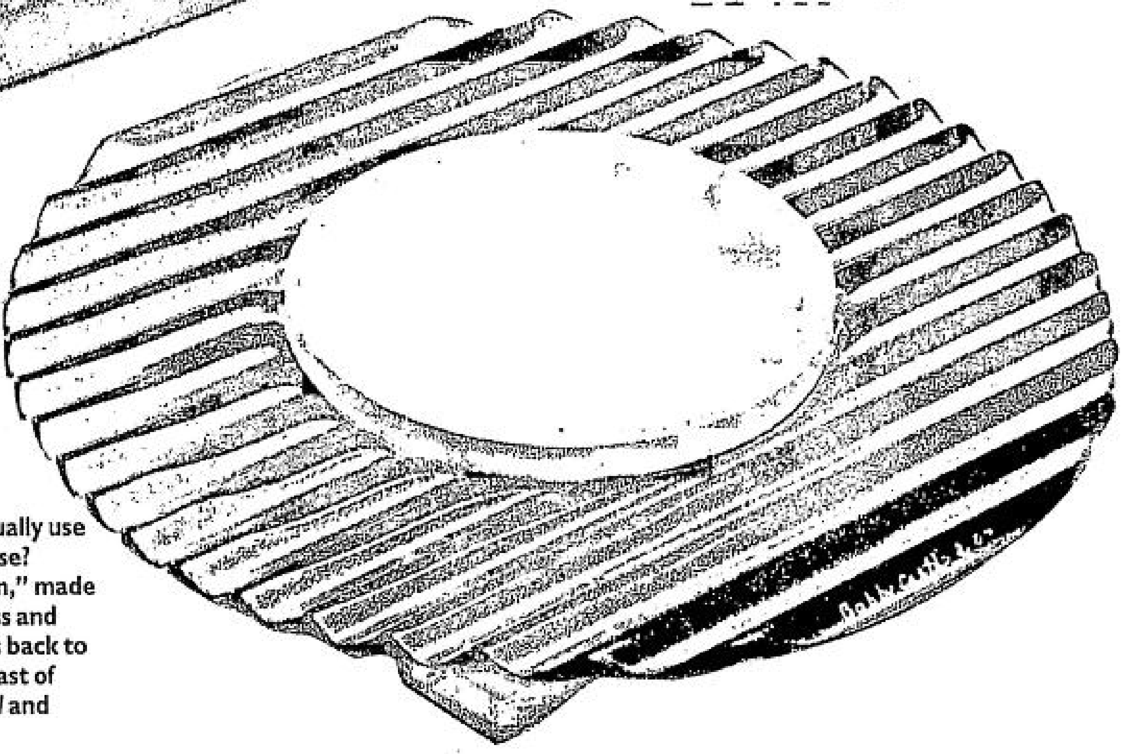
"Some people say *'di naman ako marunong* mag-drawing, *o 'di* graduate *ng* [art course], which is true!" he laughs, "But these are experiments that came out well."

Castillo, a member of Glass Art Society, International Association of Glass Artists and Filipino Inventors Society, says art is part of historical documentation and cultural enrichment. He put up Glass Art Technique Center to provide technical support and educate to budding artists.

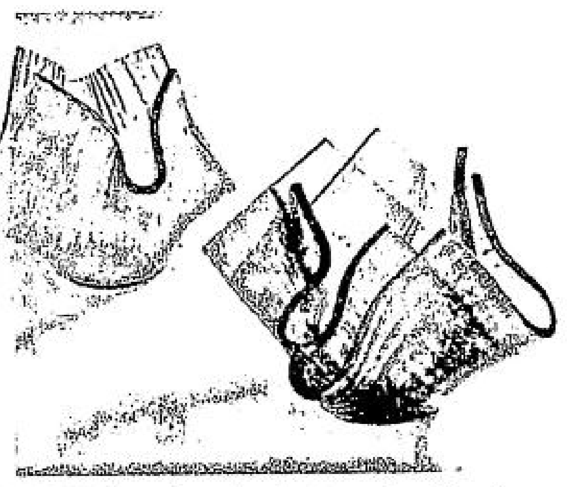
His works are the delicate and fragile memories of the traditional Filipino home, as represented in cold, hard glass.

Visit www.bobbycastillo.com

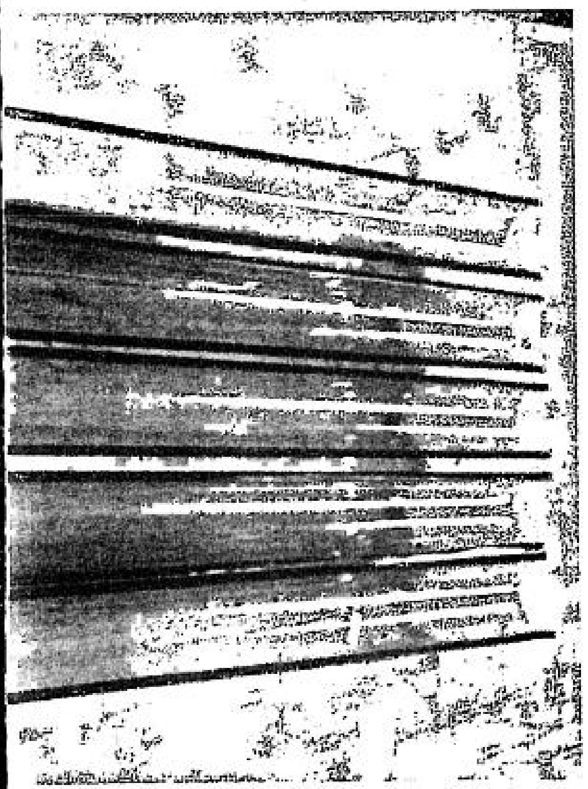
FORM meets function. This art piece is meant to be used.



COULD you actually use this to slice cheese? "Kesong Lumban," made of thick blue glass and pinewood, harks back to a yummy breakfast of toasted *pandesal* and native cheese.

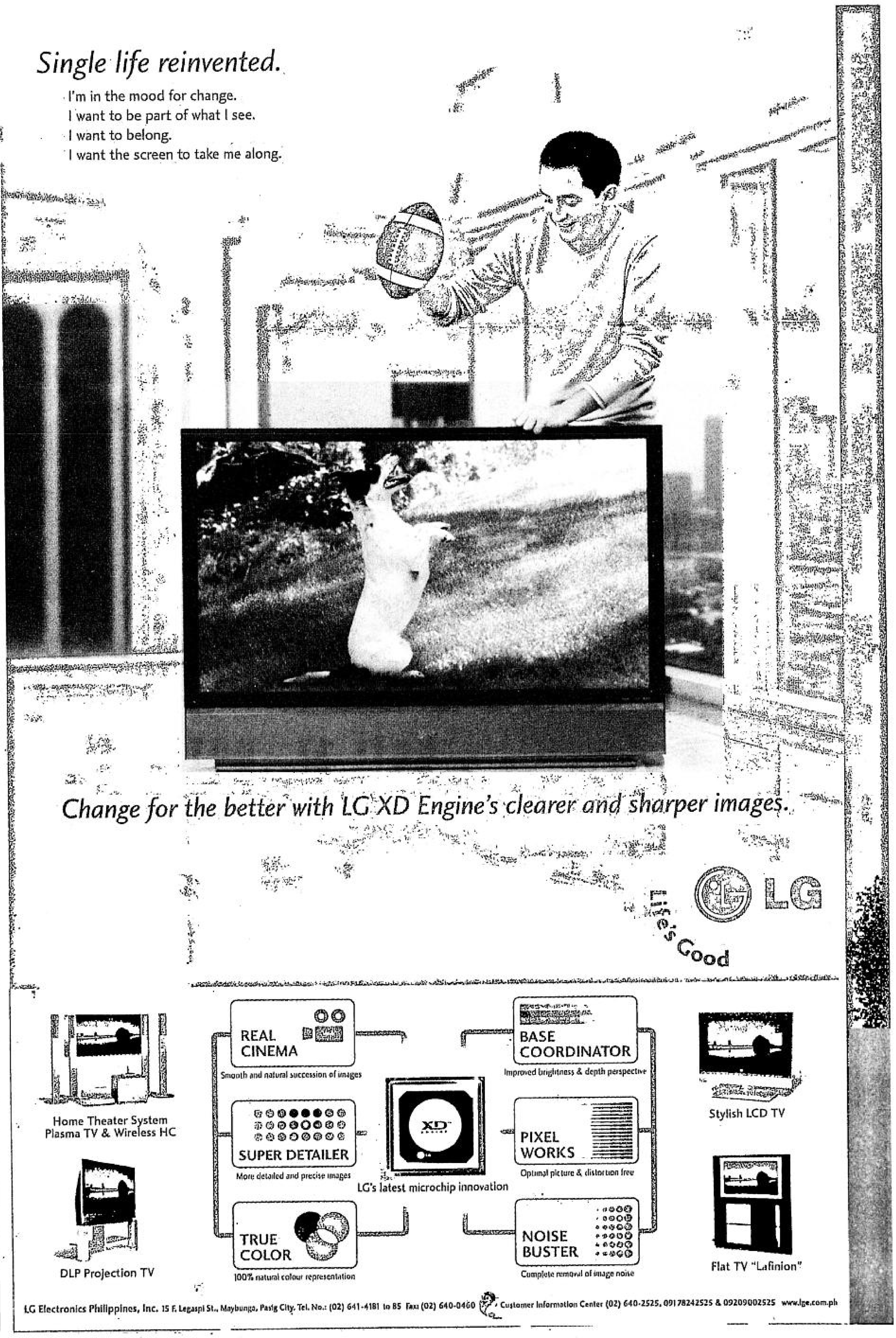


E-FORM draped vessels of patterned and fused rs of green glass



g Kawayan" brings us back to unhurried mornings

er will hold its traditional sale of environmental ornamentals, bonsai and collectible stones from le will offer discounts by as much as 50 percent, is invited to take part in this once-a-year e, acacias, *guyabano*, *langka* and carabao mango is open from 8-6 p.m., Monday to Sunday.



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Will Manilans lose a much-needed 'lung'?

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

WHY is it that when Metro Manila's streets have to be widened and traffic jams minimized, the first thing our city officials think of doing is cut down trees? What is it about trees that elicits such cruelty?

Perhaps it's because trees are enviably strong, sturdy and immovable. They are incapable of protest, bribery or boot-licking. And, more than that, they don't vote so they're expendable. And, like the Queen of Hearts in Lewis Carroll's novel who would order "Off with their heads!" when people displeased her, local officials have the trees cut down.

But what are the heads of trees? They are leafy canopies, reaching out to heaven, shading people from the harsh rays of the sun, helping to filter the dust and carbon dioxide so everyone can breathe clean air. The roots have their own function—sopping up the rain and preventing floods.

Destruction as solution

But evidently these virtues don't count. And so cutting trees has become the solution to urban development problems. How ironic to call it that when it is destruction that is happening instead.

We see it done on Katipunan Road in Quezon City, in many lesser known places in Manila and, now, the latest, in the Arroceros Forest Park, a patch of land between the Metropolitan Theater-Mehan Garden complex and the Pasig River. Arroceros Park is where the old buildings of the Department of Education stood, a few steps away from the old Government Service Insurance System and Philippine Veterans Affairs buildings (empty now but convertible to new uses).

A battle of sorts is going on between those who want to build structures that do not belong to a forest park, where—as a matter of fact—all space is occupied by trees, and those who want to conserve the site for environmental, historical, aesthetic and health reasons.

One side argues that since it is city property, the forest park is under the jurisdiction of the local government, which intends to build there, as far as we know, a school and a bus terminal, among others, that will inevitably involve the cutting of trees.

Heeding a call

The other side contends that in 1992, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between the mayor of Manila at the time and a women's organization called Winner that rallied to the call for help of then First Lady Ming Ramos in her environmental projects.

The MOA allowed Winner members to work on the conservation of Arroceros Forest Park, giving them their project focus. They took their task seriously, readying seedlings and saplings for planting in the site where, they noted, several ancient trees were already growing. There was no doubt in their minds that this patch of land that was turning into a mini-forest could be made into a much-needed green haven in a dust-choked city.

But the park, they soon realized, was more than a forest. It was also an archeological/historical site, declared as such by the National Historical Institute and the National Museum. It was part of the Parian connection where previous excavations had uncovered porcelain shards and other chinaware.

The MOA set no time limit to Winner's project in the park, says Regina R. Paterno, Winner president, but members themselves drew up a 15-year time table that would end in 2015. The forest park could be given back to the City of Manila then in its finished form—a landmark and an eco-tourism destination.

Bird watchers' delight

Although the present controversy has halted much of the planned work, those scheduled for 1996-2001 (phase one) have been accomplished. They include continued planting and maintenance (the Manila Seedling Bank reports the planting of 8,481 trees, including second growths, while the Haribon Foundation says 10 kinds of birds have been spotted in the area).

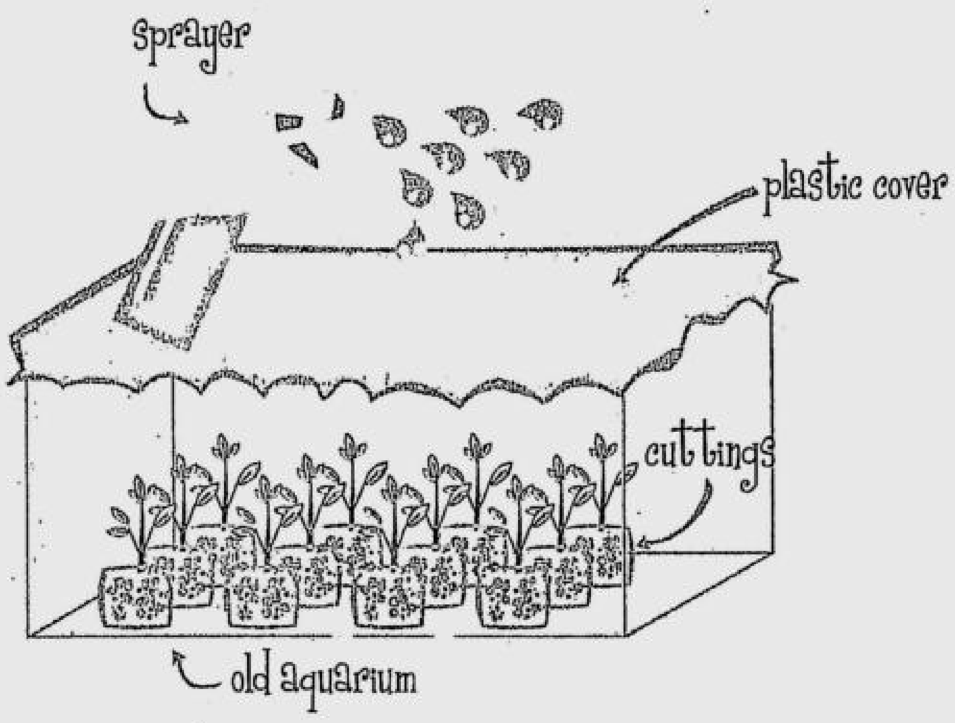
Other done deeds are linkups with schools and media and environmental non-government organizations. As a matter of fact, the group was well into work scheduled for up to 2007 (phase two) when it was interrupted.

Considering that workers hired by Winner are often not allowed entry to the Park, the group has resorted to conducting a Sunday activity when artists converge there to paint the beauty of its lushness. In this sense, the park, half-finished as it is, has become an art center. Artists and art lovers come (in increasing numbers each week) because they lament the loss of a much-needed city "lung" and because the place is beautiful and has the potential for spiritual renewal.

It is so beautiful, in fact, it just can't be left to unintelligent "development."

Our country is in a fiscal crisis (we used to call it an economic mess) when national leaders begin to think in terms of food coupons for the poor. Let us not make ourselves poorer still by depriving ourselves of the beautiful, healthful and free gifts of nature around us—our trees.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com



Top cuts

By Serapion Metilla
Contributor

GREEN TIPS

THE RAINY season is also growing season so plant propagation will be easier.

One way to propagate plants is by using top-cuttings. Use cuttings that have three to four nodes, with tender and still greenish stems. Old and grayish stems will not easily take root.

Cutting should be done late afternoon. Remove some of the leaves from the lower nodes and immediately soak the stems in a rooting hormone solution with Hormex or ANAA. To make the solution, add 10-15 drops of the hormone to a half gallon of clean water.

In small plastic propagating bags with fine, washed river sand, insert the stems at least 1½ inches deep. Although some plants can be easily propagated in ordinary potting medium and in an open but shady area, it is best to place them inside a propagating chamber. An old aquarium can be covered with transparent plastic sheet all around. The transparent material will allow sufficient light to penetrate while moisture will be retained inside the chamber for high humidity.

Put the chamber in a shady but well-lighted spot. Daily watering should be done by applying a fine mist on the leaves and stems.

Afterward, use a potting mixture of one part garden soil, one part river sand, one part coco coir dust and one part aged rice hull. Then keep the plants in a shady area for about a week before exposing them to full sunlight.

Some of the plants that can be propagated by stem cuttings are the crotons (San Francisco), papua, Serissa foetida, herbs (both culinary and medicinal), dracaenas, begonias, *kalyos*, ti plants, Fukien tea, *kamuning*, *sinamono* and bougainvillea.

For more information, call 9394593.

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Up close with Uncle Ho

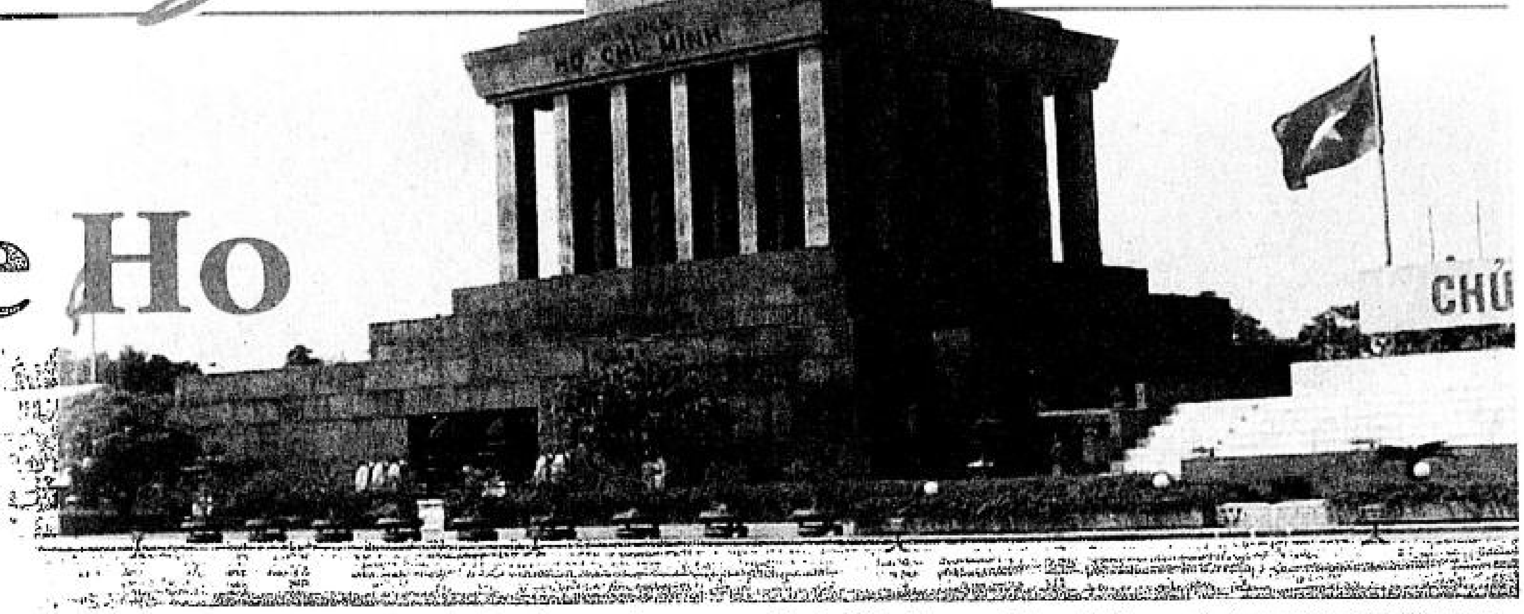
Text and photos by Gibbs Cadiz

YOU can't view Ho Chi Minh's body if you're in a sleeveless shirt. Ditto if you're wearing shades. You can't take a camera or cell phone with you or talk while filing past the glass crypt. And no arms akimbo either.

We learned that firsthand when we made a trip to Hanoi via Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) in Vietnam, courtesy of Philippine Airlines, which is offering "Swingaround" tour packages *(see related story on page J2)* to some of the world's most tantalizing destinations like Bangkok, Kathmandu, Las Vegas, Shanghai, Vancouver and... okay, Singapore.

The hardy Vietnamese remain under firm Communist rule, but

UP CLOSE/ J2


HO CHI MINH
CHÚ

THE IMPOSING Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi houses the preserved body of the Communist revolutionary-statesman who led Vietnam in its wars of liberation against the French, Japanese and the Americans.

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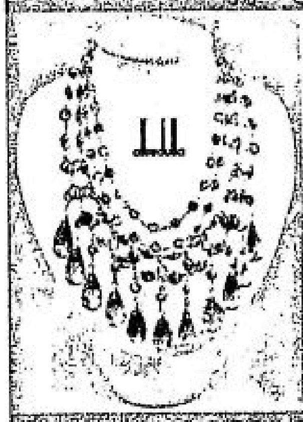
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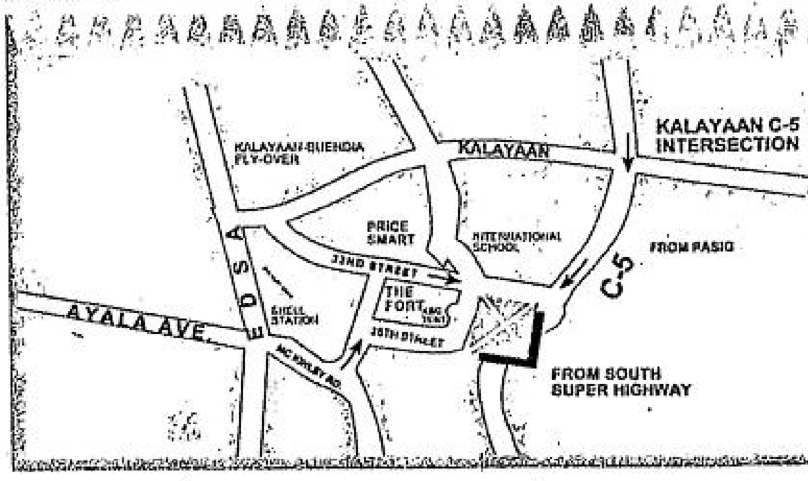
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THIS TREE-LINED boulevard rings the gleaming Restored Sword Lake in the heart of Hanoi, and leads to the historic Old Quarter—Hanoi's Escolta—where many businesses have set up shop in what is considered the oldest continuously developed area of Vietnam.

VIETNAMES
pineapple ar

Up close with Uncle Ho

From page J1

honestly, they look none the worse for it. Sure, Hanoi looks a bit derelict compared to Makati, and the general vibe itself seems locked in some late '70s time warp, with many men still dressed in high-waisted, ill-tapered pants and shirts two sizes bigger than their slender frames. (They were mostly thin—we never saw any obese people in Hanoi.)

Women were a bit more modern, but then again, all they had to do was slip into an *ao dai* (pronounced *"aw jai"*) to look lithe and beautiful.

Yes, Vietnamese women are lovely personifications of Eastern grace and mystique. The *ao dai*'s naturally elegant silhouette recalls a bygone glamour, but what's striking is you can still see these flitting forms of color everywhere. The Vietnamese are clearly proud of their national costume, and they show it by wearing the dress any time they could.

Palpable charm

That's part of what gives the city a palpable if bedraggled charm: The old ways often interact effortlessly with the new. We saw a couple of young *ao dai*-clad girls riding a Vespa, presumably on their way to work. It was a picturesque sight.

Hanoi speaks of character, a genuine gentility. This was a city ravaged by years of war and destruction, the very nerve center of North Vietnamese resistance first against the French, then the Japanese and the Americans.

But how it has picked itself up! You drive along neat, tree-lined boulevards with ample walkways for pedestrians, and you feel you're in the middle of a giant park. Day temperatures can be really hot, but the cool shade makes the city an oasis. Hardly any billboards obscure the French colonial architecture that still dominates the skyline.

There are more motorbikes in Vietnam than cars. Automobiles remain out of reach for many ordinary Vietnamese, so Hanoi's streets hum to these nimble machines. Perhaps because cars are more the exception than the norm, traffic lights are few and far between.

Crossing the street, then, becomes quite a tango—two steps forward, one step back, and so on until you reach the other side. Vietnamese riders simply weave in and out of pedestrians and cars, but they do slow down once they see you crossing.

Utilitarian race

Goods are cheap, and there's a certain high in handling currency by the hundreds of thousands. One US dollar is equivalent to 15,700 Vietnamese dong. Try running that in your head when you're buying an artwork for $20.

But if you're into high-stakes shopping, this isn't the place for you. Hanoi is already the capital of Vietnam, yet its most upscale mall is more Harrison Plaza than Greenbelt. It has Prada and Gucci and Cartier, all right, but it has none of the brazen, dazzling commercialism we're so used to in our own malls.

Or maybe because, while Vietnamese are increasingly allowed to own private property, even open businesses, they remain a highly utilitarian, tightly-skippered race. Is that good or bad? Who knows?

The first-rate restaurant we were brought to, called Thang Long, in the heart of Hanoi's business district, turned out to be owned by the government. That floored us, because everything in the resto seemed to work fine—the service, the look, the food. Especially the food (the crab and vermicelli spring rolls wrapped in rice paper were heavenly). Could that ever happen here?

> Hanoi is a window into Vietnam's changing ways and eternal spirit

THESE Saigon misses look lovely in the *ao dai*, Vietnam's national costume.

Government seems to be every
but woven so tightly into the fabric
life. The bottles of water we we
en—yup, they were made by the
ment, too, so our guide casually in
us. Ah, so that's why there was or
brand everywhere!

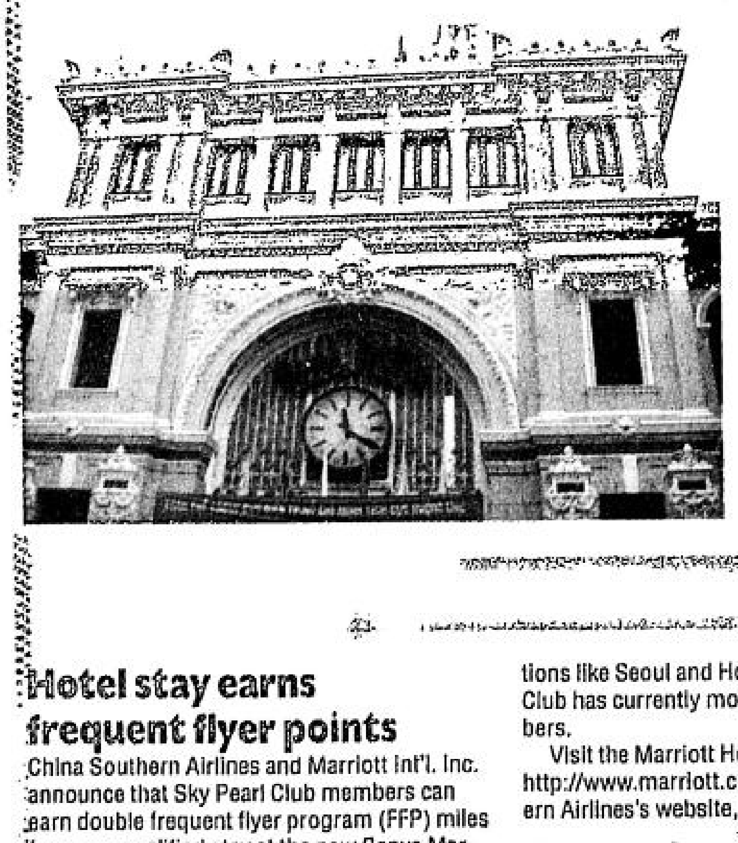
Such control can be scary. Still, y
help but marvel at the Vietnamese's
self-sufficiency. On an early mornin
around the city, we were astonished t
many individuals, even whole famili
cising in their yards, on sidewalks, i
doing brisk walking, savoring the cle

Mass calisthenics on this scale i
thing alien to our sedentary
lifestyles. Could it be why these pe
now threatening to outstrip us? F
they're strong and healthy and no
flabby by burgers, fries and pizza? (
no McDonald's, KFC or Pizza Hut in
by the way.)

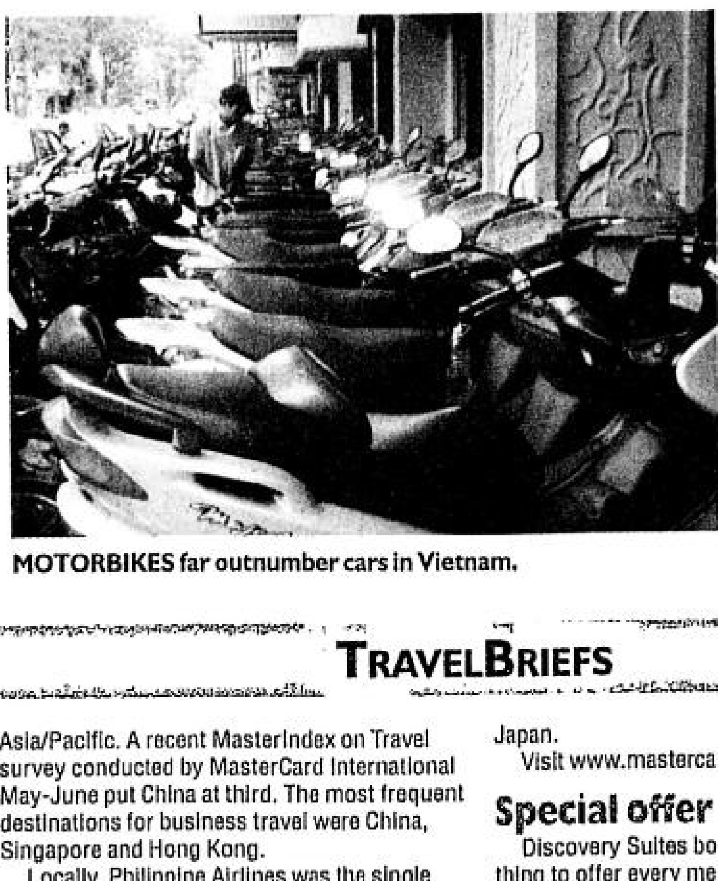
Boring and anachronistic

So, on the one hand, a country st
grips of a dated ideology can be a
anachronistic place, where you s
splendid lunch in the garden of a r
French villa while the backgrou
sic—Rick Astley's "Never Gonna G
Up"—nearly makes you choke.

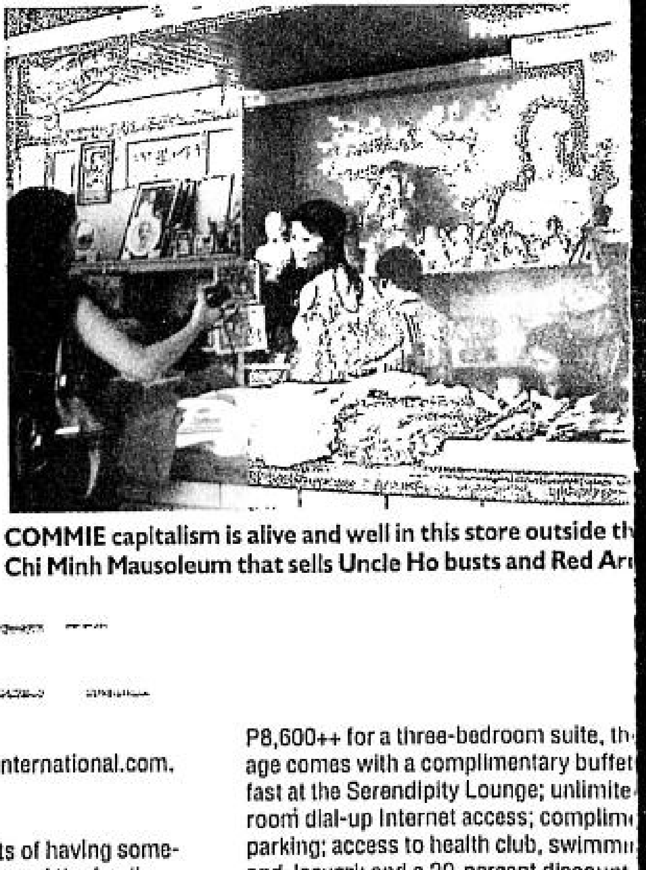
On the other hand, you see the vir
proudly defiant, hardworking countr
to make it on its own terms—damn
McDonald and Starbucks. Say what
about that quaint old palaver called
tism, but surely Uncle Ho (as the Viet



HO Chi Minh's paternal shadow looms over every corner of Vietnam, as in the Saigon General Post Office Building (left). Built in 1886-1891, its beautifully preserved interior (top) is dominated by the revered leader's stern visage, even as it plays host to 21st-century trappings such as cellphone card booths.



MOTORBIKES far outnumber cars in Vietnam.



COMMIE capitalism is alive and well in this store outside th
Chi Minh Mausoleum that sells Uncle Ho busts and Red Ar

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Hotel stay earns frequent flyer points

China Southern Airlines and Marriott Int'l. Inc. announce that Sky Pearl Club members can earn double frequent flyer program (FFP) miles for every qualified stay at the new Sanya Marriott Resort and Spa until Oct. 30.

Sanya's Phoenix Int'l. Airport connects China Southern Airlines flights to all major Chinese cities, as well as to international destinations like Seoul and Hong Kong. The Sky Pearl Club has currently more than two million members.

Visit the Marriott Hotel chain website, http://www.marriott.com and the China Southern Airlines's website, www.cs-air.com/en.

Personal and business travel destinations

Singapore and Thailand are tied as top regional destinations for personal travel in Asia/Pacific. A recent MasterIndex on Travel survey conducted by MasterCard International May-June put China at third. The most frequent destinations for business travel were China, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Locally, Philippine Airlines was the single most preferred carrier for business travel, followed by both Singapore Airlines and Other Airlines. A little over a fourth of Filipino respondents identified China and Singapore as the most frequently visited countries, followed by Japan.

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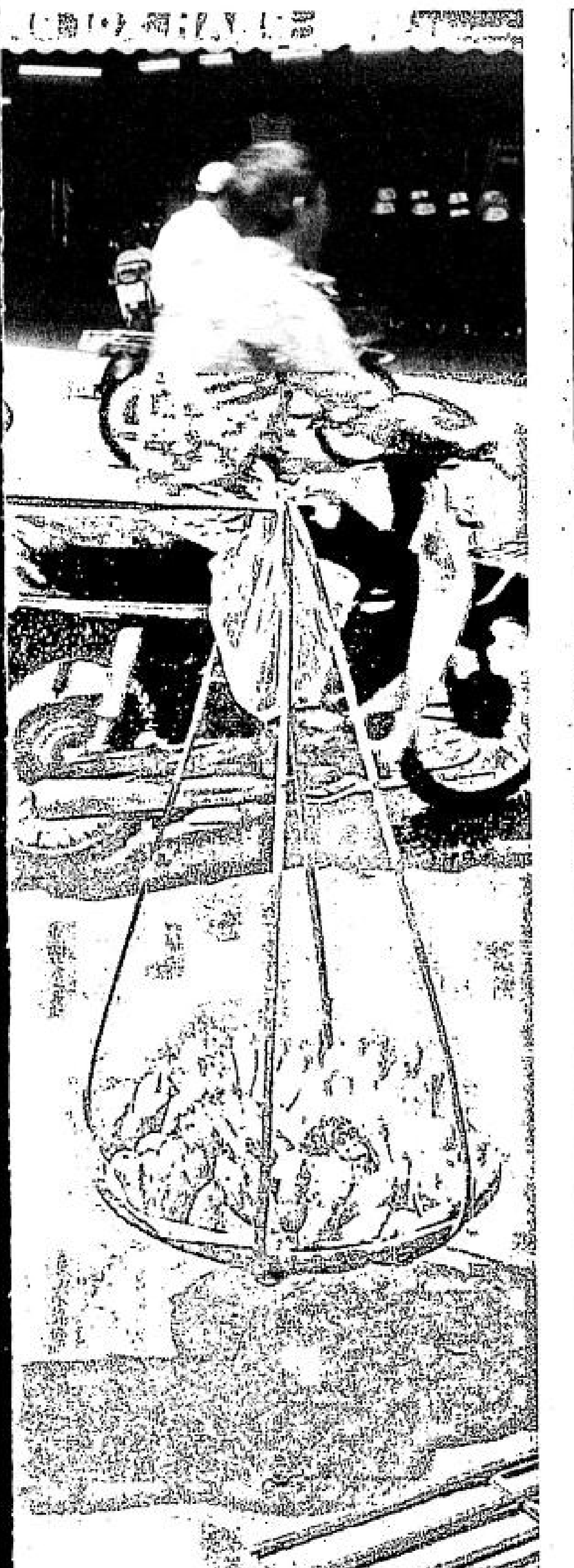

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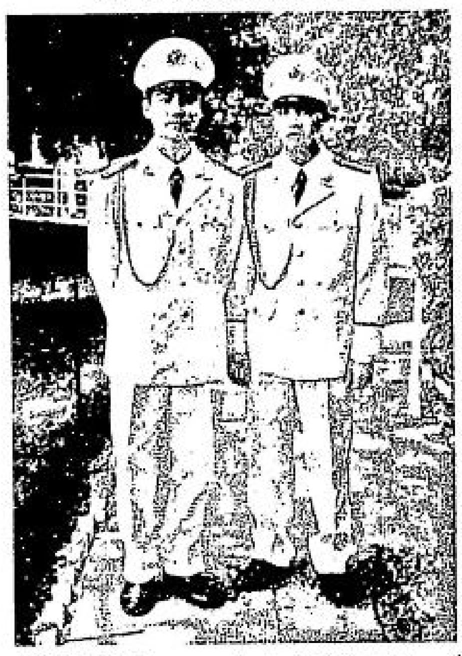

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call him) did his countrymen a signal service by giving them a spine.

If only for that, today he is a much revered icon. And that's how, visiting the imposing Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi, we were made aware of the niceties required to view the body of the late great warrior.

Entering the sanctum where his remains lay was a spookily fascinating experience. The light was a dim red, the honor guard in their immaculate white garb stood unmoving on all four sides of the bier, and Uncle Ho in his glass crypt looked eerily ethereal. His embalmer (or is it wax caretaker?) did a good job.

That's when a guard by our side brusquely grabbed our arms and brought them down. We had them crossed on our chest (it was freezing inside), and we were being disrespectful. Even in death, Uncle Ho is a stern leader.

Afterward, we went out blinking in the sunshine and were led to a row of shops on the mausoleum grounds. They were selling Uncle Ho busts and figurines, Red Army shirts, hammer-and-sickle pendants, Che Guevarra prints. Capitalism has caught up big-time with Uncle Ho and his country. If we don't watch out, we may be eating dust soon.

E-mail the author at gcadiz@inquirer.com.ph

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Swing around the world

IF you had $400 (about P22,000) set aside for a planned holiday, where would you go?

You can try Philippine Airlines' Swingaround tour package to the former Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) in Vietnam, for starters. A three-day, two-night stay in a deluxe hotel in the city (with free breakfast) sets you back $337.

Drag a companion with you and that tag goes down to $300 each. For $11 more, you get a half-day city tour that covers visits to, among others, the Notre Dame Cathedral, the beautiful City Hall and the former US embassy (remember the helicopter scene in "Miss Saigon"?).

If visiting symbols of imperial defeat isn't your idea of enrichment, how about touring an ancient and priceless cultural treasure? The Saigon Swingaround also offers an extension visit to Angkor Wat in neighboring Cambodia. Now that's a holiday swing you can't pass up.

Philippine Airlines' "Swingaround" program offers such value-for-money tour packages to some of the most popular destinations in the airline's global route network. Among the other cities covered are Bangkok, Guam, Hong Kong, Honolulu, Jakarta, Kathmandu, Kuala Lumpur, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Okinawa, San Francisco, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Vancouver and Xiamen.

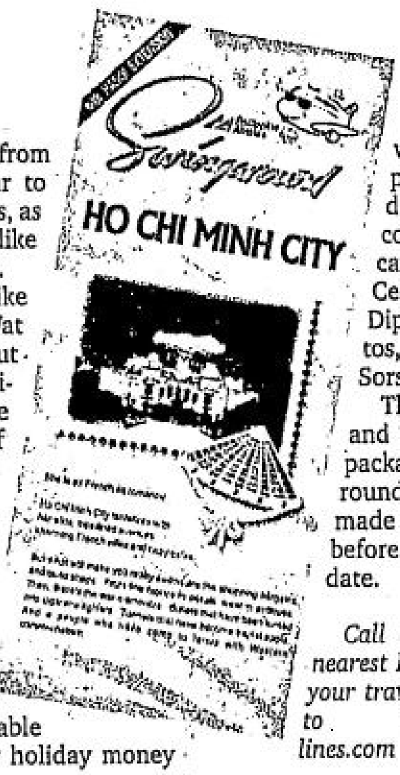
The program is designed to give travelers a quick peek into a city's historical and cultural attractions, with arrangements that suit various tastes, budgets and preferences. Aside from round-trip Fiesta Class tickets and airport-hotel-airport transfers, holiday-seekers can choose from an array of three-star to five-star hotel partners, as well as other add-ons like the optional city tours.

Extension tours like Hanoi and Angkor Wat are also optional, but tickets to these destinations may only be booked with PAL if you're taking the Manila-Saigon-Manila tour.

A counterpart program for local destinations is also available, called "PALakbayan" tours. So if you feel more comfortable about spending your holiday money within the country, pick from beautiful destinations like Bacolod, Bohol, Boracay, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, Davao, Dipolog, General Santos, Iloilo, Laoag and Sorsogon.

The "Swingaround" and "PALakbayan" tour packages are valid year-round. Bookings must be made at least seven days before your departure date.

Gibbs Cadiz



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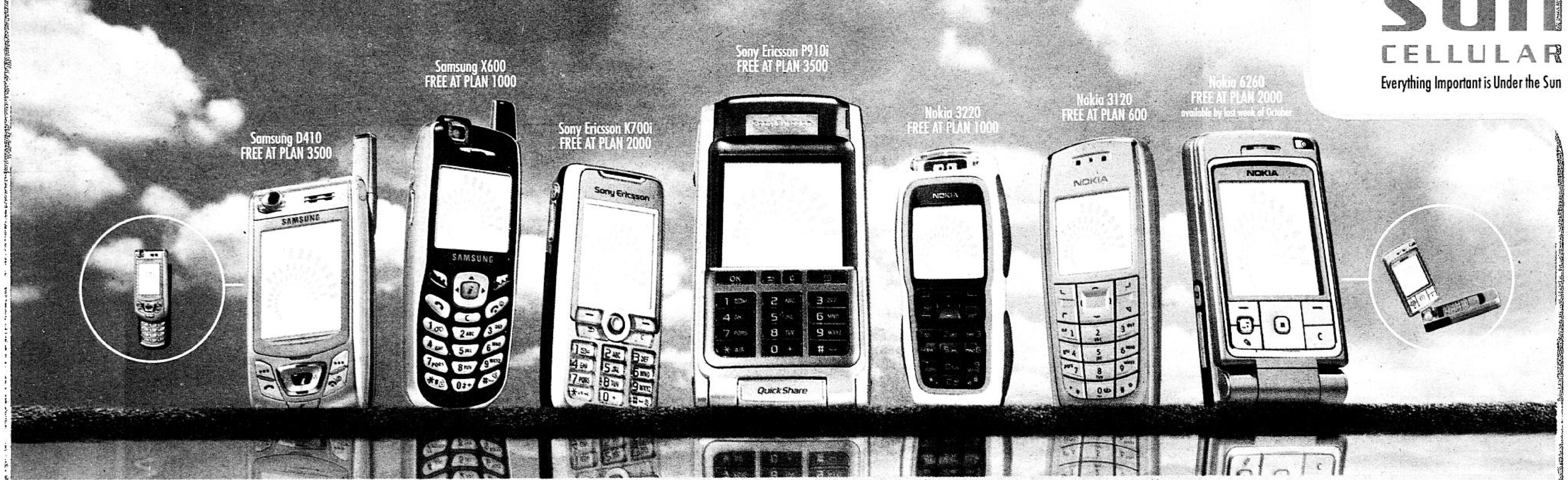
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Through the grapevine in Southern France

In the Languedoc-Roussillon region of France, wine-making achieves the stature of science without shaking off the romance

AS far as the eye can see, nothing but buds breaking on vines between the majestic mountains of the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean sea PHOTOS TAKEN WITH FUJI FINEPIX F601 ZOOM

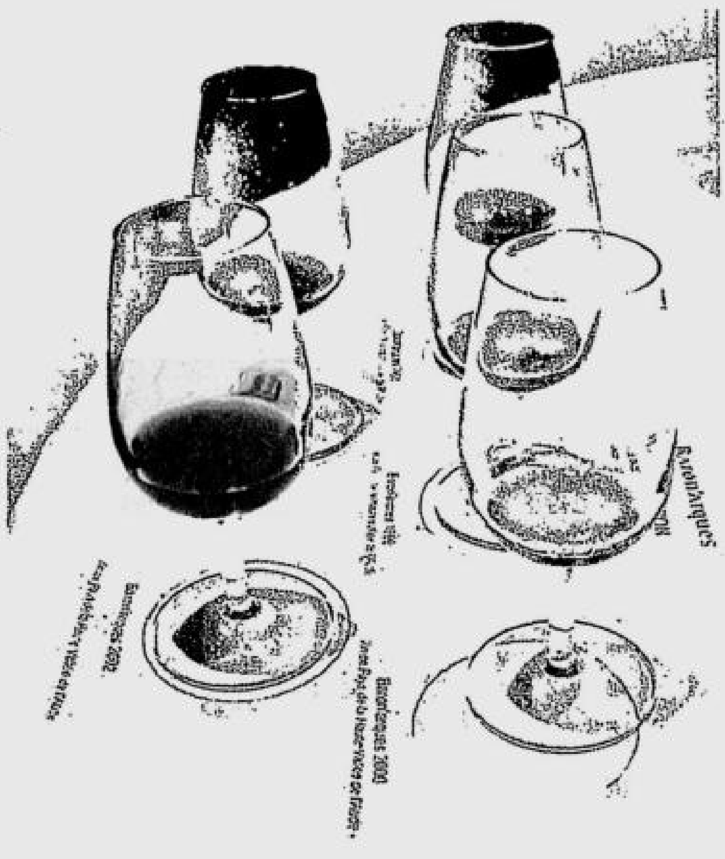
Text and photos by Chelo Banal-Formoso

ONCE a year, in the oldest wine-producing region of France, the world's most prominent chefs, restaurateurs and wine enthusiasts are invited to bid on barrels of fine red wine. After the usual blending, aging and other magical tricks of the trade, the wine is bottled and labeled to the specifications of the winning bidders and shipped to their kitchens or cellars, wherever on the planet those may be.

Dubbed "Toques et Clochers," the auction is a tradition started in 1989 by the Vignerons Du Sieur D'Arques (VSA), a cooperative of grape growers in Languedoc-Roussillon to raise funds for the preservation of the region's architectural heritage.

What happened this year was that the chefs from the Philippines, Glenda Barretto of Via Mare and Myrna Segismundo of 9501, did not make it to France in time for this major event. But through special arrangements made by wine maven Tita Trillo, Baron Philippe de Rothschild S.A. (BPDR) graciously hosted guided tours of its vineyards and cellars at a later date for both chefs, with Tita and myself in tow. Unlike my three companions who placed orders for barrels of the Baron'Arques Grand Cru red, 2000 vintage, I went along for the pure pleasure

THROUGH/ K2



WINE tasting of five vintages of Baron'Arques at the Salon Dame Carcas in Hotel de la Cite

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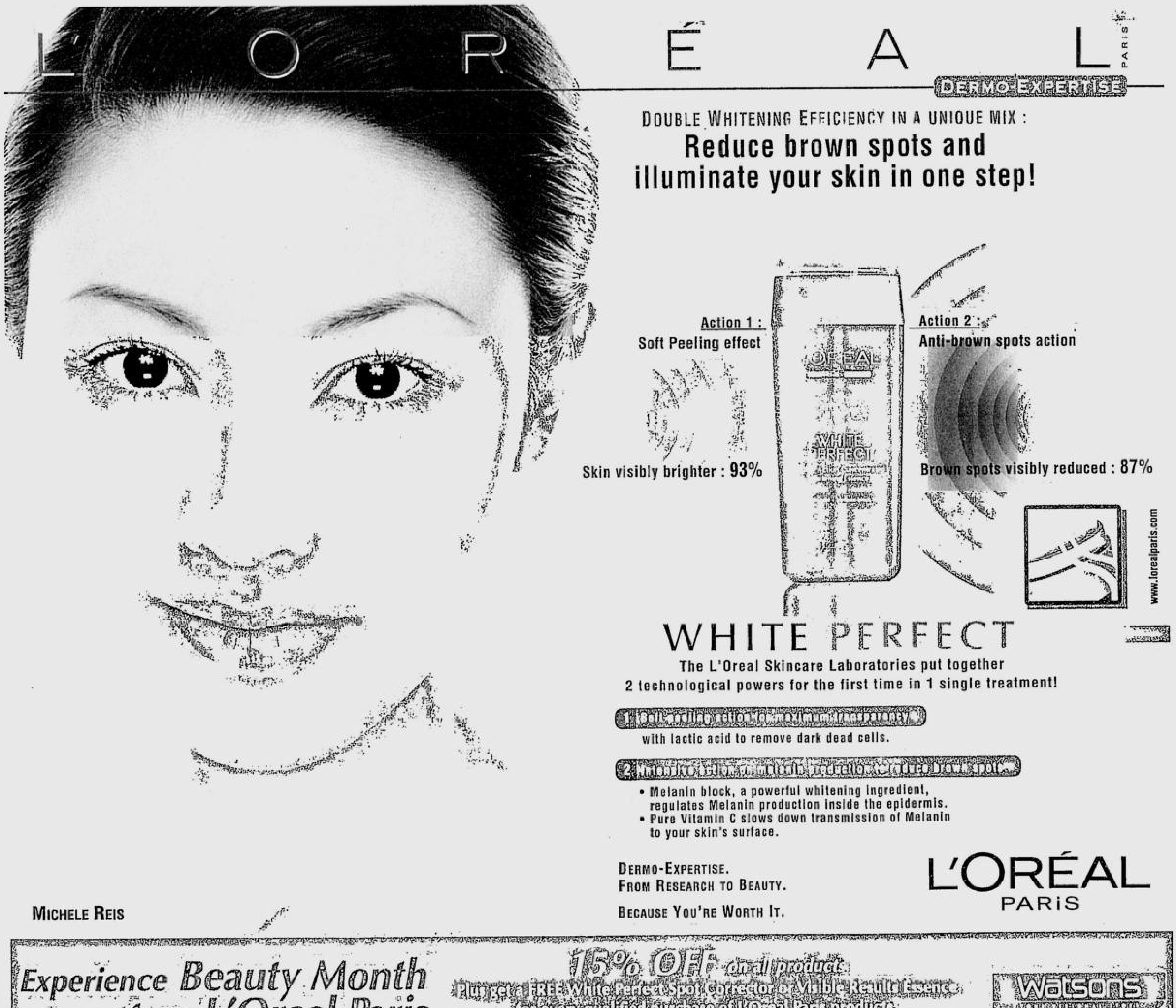

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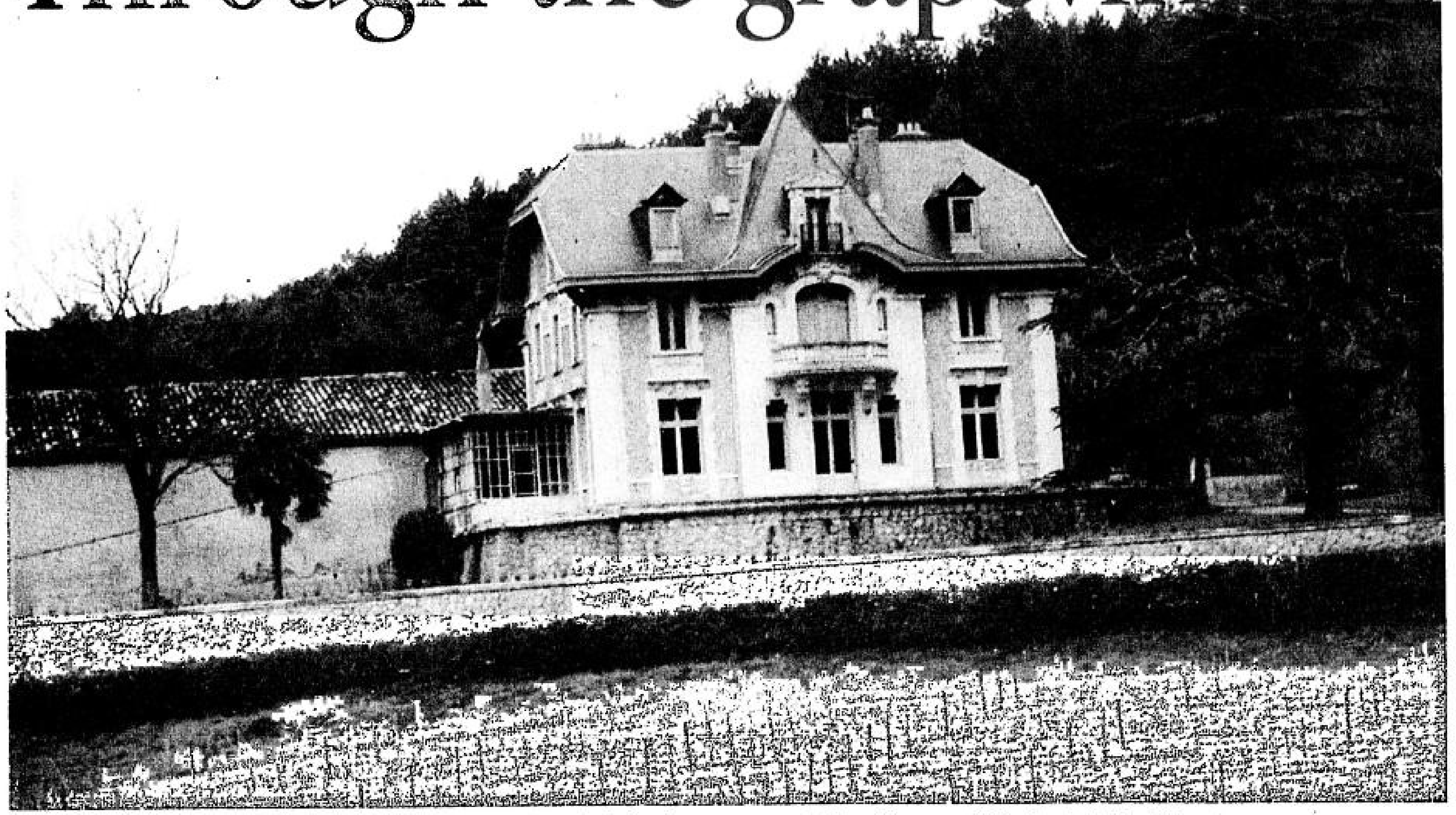
Through the grapevine in Souther



ALSO in Languedoc where Baron'Arques is produced is the Domain de Lambert, a new acquisition of Baroness Philippine de Rothschild.

From page K1

of gorging on the beauty of the Southern French country and its liquid treasures.

When we visited, it seemed like there was nothing to see but undulating rows of gnarly grapevines. Later we discovered that buds were breaking in miles and miles of vineyards breathtakingly bordered by the dark mountains of the Pyrenees on one side and the Mediterranean sea on the other.

If you take this geography to heart, you can forget about the corruption and the poverty in the country you left behind and instead start fretting about what kind of grapes the harvest will yield. You're fooled into thinking all that matters is what wine to drink with this kind of meat or that kind of cheese. Your vocabulary acquires a new blend: *assemblage*, terroir, *appellation*, tannins, *negociant*— strange words not even *mon amis* Maurice Arcache would care to use.

Sophisticated taste

It is true that after a trip to France, the world's largest exporter of wine, you can never go back to drinking Boone's Farm strawberry wine. You acquire a more sophisticated taste because you don't have a choice; everywhere you go all they serve you is wine, wine, wine. France is the best place for kicking your Coca-Cola habit cold turkey.

From Paris, we flew to Toulouse airport where a sleek, computerized, talking, black car driven by a good-looking young man

CHA

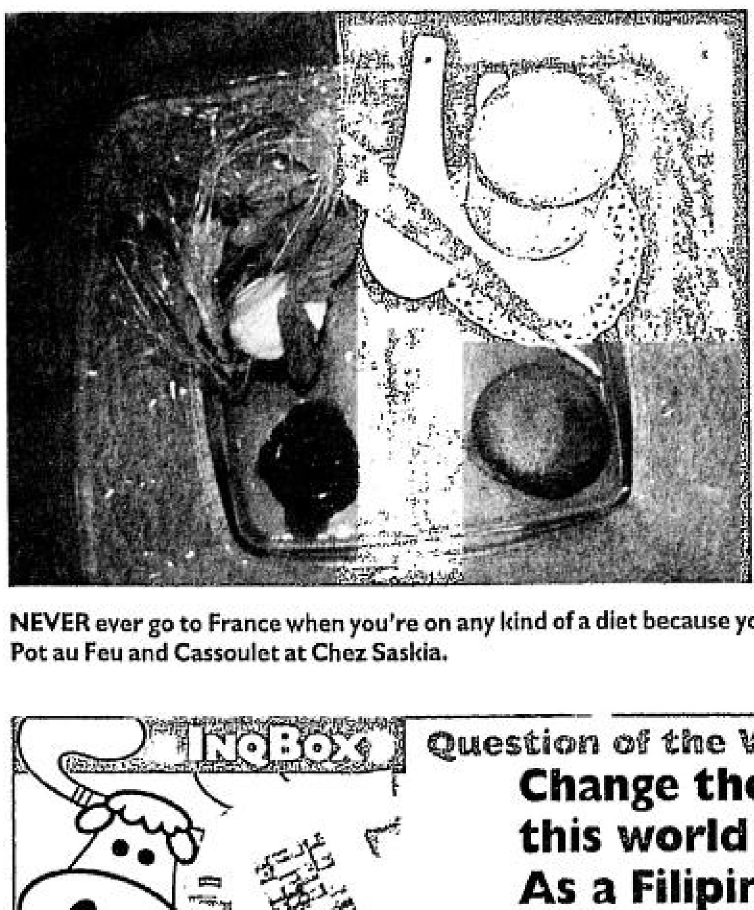
WINE Appreciation 101 for chef Myrna Segismundo of 9501, Vincent Montigaud, managing director of Baron'Arques, restaurateur and wine importer Tita Trillo of Anthony's Wine Cellar and Magnum, Guilhelm Marty, technical director of Vignerons Du Sieur D'Arques and chef-restaurateur Glenda Barretto of Via Mare.

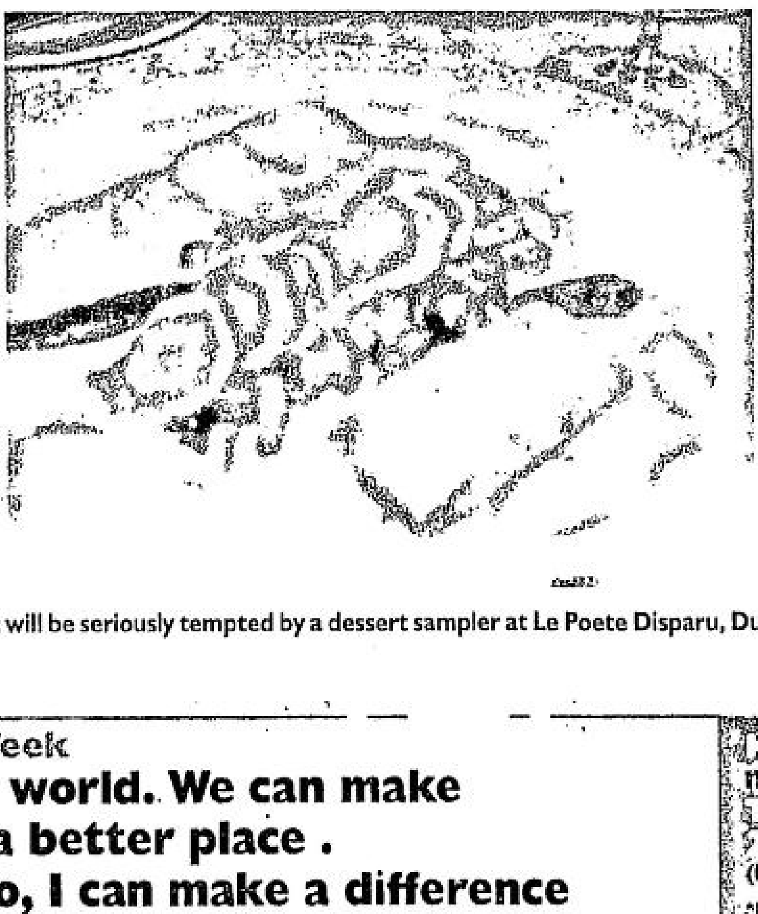
Baron'Arques
Baron'Arques

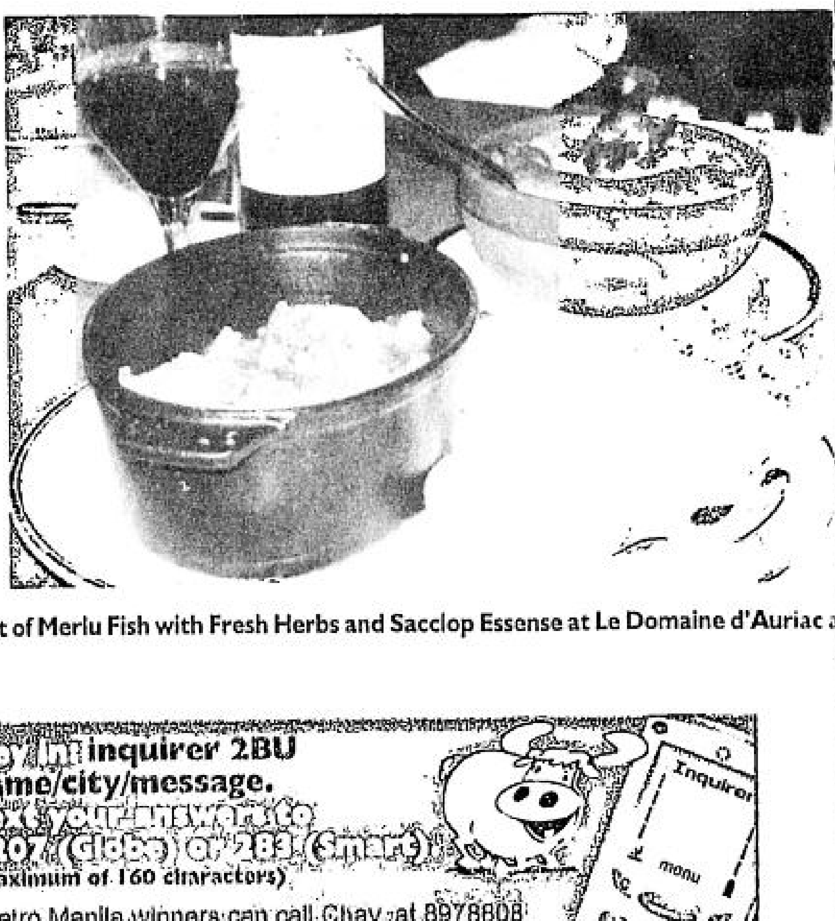
BARON'ARQUES red is the classic product of the union of BPDR's wine-making skills and the grapes grown by some of the best vineyards in the Languedoc region.

BEEF Fillet with Potato and Oxtail Lasagna at Chez Saskia

BROAD Bean Stew with Duck Gizzards and Braised Lettuce Heart at Le Floure







NEVER ever go to France when you're on any kind of a diet because you will be seriously tempted by a dessert sampler at Le Poete Disparu, Duet of Merlu Fish with Fresh Herbs and Sacclop Essense at Le Domaine d'Auriac a Pot au Feu and Cassoulet at Chez Saskia.

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r France

TEAU Mouton Rothschild in Pauillac, home of Baroness Philippine de Rothschild who collaborated with the grape growers' cooperative to produce Baron'Arques

named Sebastian was waiting to take us to the Hotel de la Cite in Carcassone, a medieval city so quaint it deserves a story all its own.

Before checking in, we had a quick lunch at Chez Saskia, the hotel's brasserie. Here the chefs in our company took charge of selecting the food and, believe me, in their hands is the best place to be. Energized by the *pot-au-feu* (stew), homemade *cassoulet* (white bean stew), beef fillet with potato and ox-tail lasagna, *tarte tatin* (apple tart) with vanilla ice cream, which Glenda and Myrna ordered to be shared by all, we rode out to the Capitelle de Baron'Arques. The winery is jointly owned by BPDR and VSA.

Vincent Montigaud, managing director of Baron'Arques, and Guilhem Marty, technical director of Vignerons, welcomed us with big umbrellas for a rainy tour of the vineyards, vat house and barrel hall that produce Baron'Arques, a Grand Crux red made of almost equal parts Bordeaux grapes and Mediterranean varieties.

"We select vines which are owned by members of the cooperative. The wine is produced by Baron'Arques and sold to Rothschild, which markets it to the world," explained Montigaud.

Handpicked

The grapes come from four villages around Limoux with varying climates and soil quality—clay, pebble, sand, etc. They are lab-tested for maturity and, when deemed ready, picked by hand and brought to the Capitelle for sorting, destemming, crushing and vatting in stainless steel.

No wonder French wine is expensive. Imagine all that land dedicated to growing the grapes, all that waiting for the wine to age, all that storage space for vats, barrels and bottles.

"Harvest time is fun, we have a good party," said Vincent. No more grape stomping these days like in the movie "A Walk in the Clouds," but for fun, said Vincent, it could be arranged. Would we want to do it? I said I'd stomp grapes with Keanu Reeves any day—I don't care how gay they say he is. But harvest time was a good five months away so for now Keanu was safe.

In the vats was the wine from the 2003 harvest. The wine is aged in French oak barrels (50 percent new, 50 percent 1-year-old) before it is transferred to tanks for refining and maturing, as is befitting a Grand Cru wine. What do they do with the used barrels? "We sell them to Spain," said Vincent.

Every day between September and December, the cellarmaster at Baron'Arques tastes the wine in each tank. He is trusted to know if it's a good lot or not. "Then we have an assemblage session—the cellarmaster, the wine maker of Baron Phillipe du Rothschild and Baron'Arques and myself," explained Montigaud. "It's a business that demands patience."

They taste each lot to determine if it's a keeper. "If not good enough for Grand Crux, we sell the wine to be made into varietal wines," said Montigaud.

He insisted there was no chance their wine could be duplicated in another year, or by another vintner. After all, the assemblage is only one part of the wine making— the harvest has something to do with the characteristic of the wine, as do the soil, the climate and the altitude.

"Upon obtaining the first wine, determining the quality and blending the wine, we select the lots that we want to keep," he added. After bottling, the wine is kept at the winery for at least two more years for a second aging.

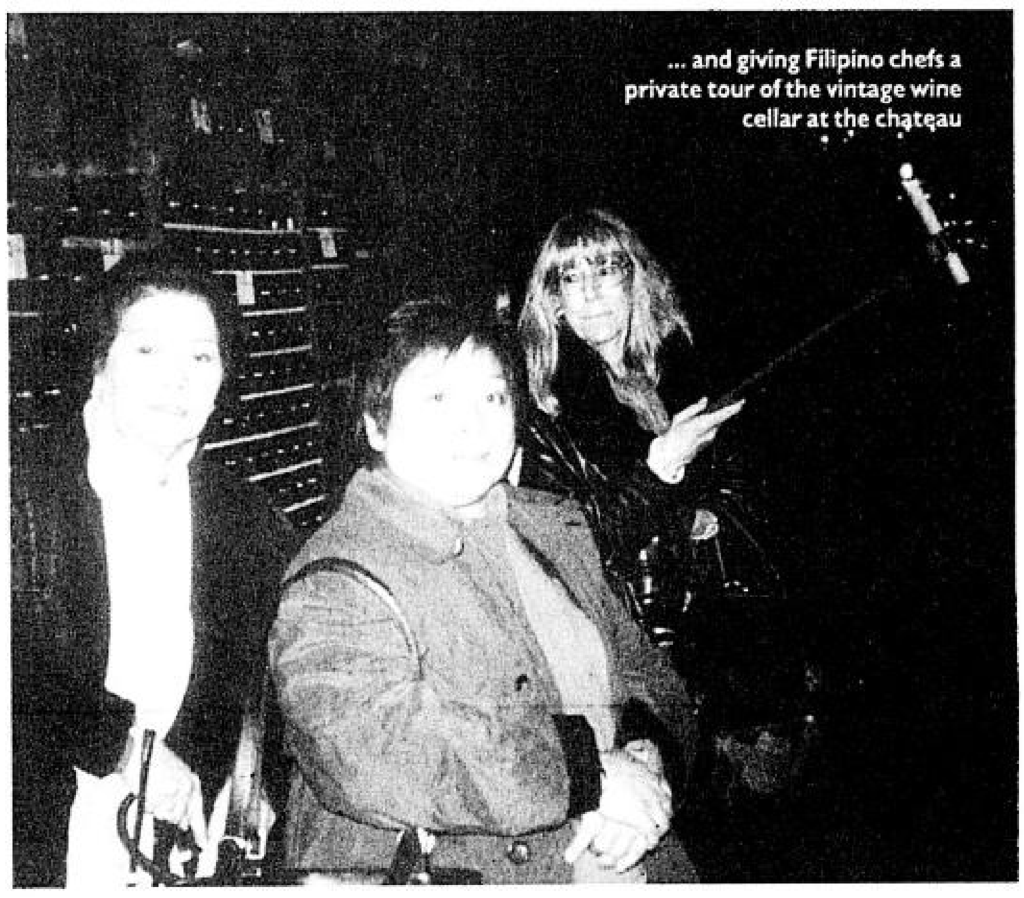
Vintage

BPDR and Baron'Arques produce wine that can be kept for several years. "We make wine that can be drank after three, four years," said Vincent, "but we try also to make wine we can keep in the cellar, if we want, for 15-20 years. If you serve this wine in a restaurant it's better to decant it."

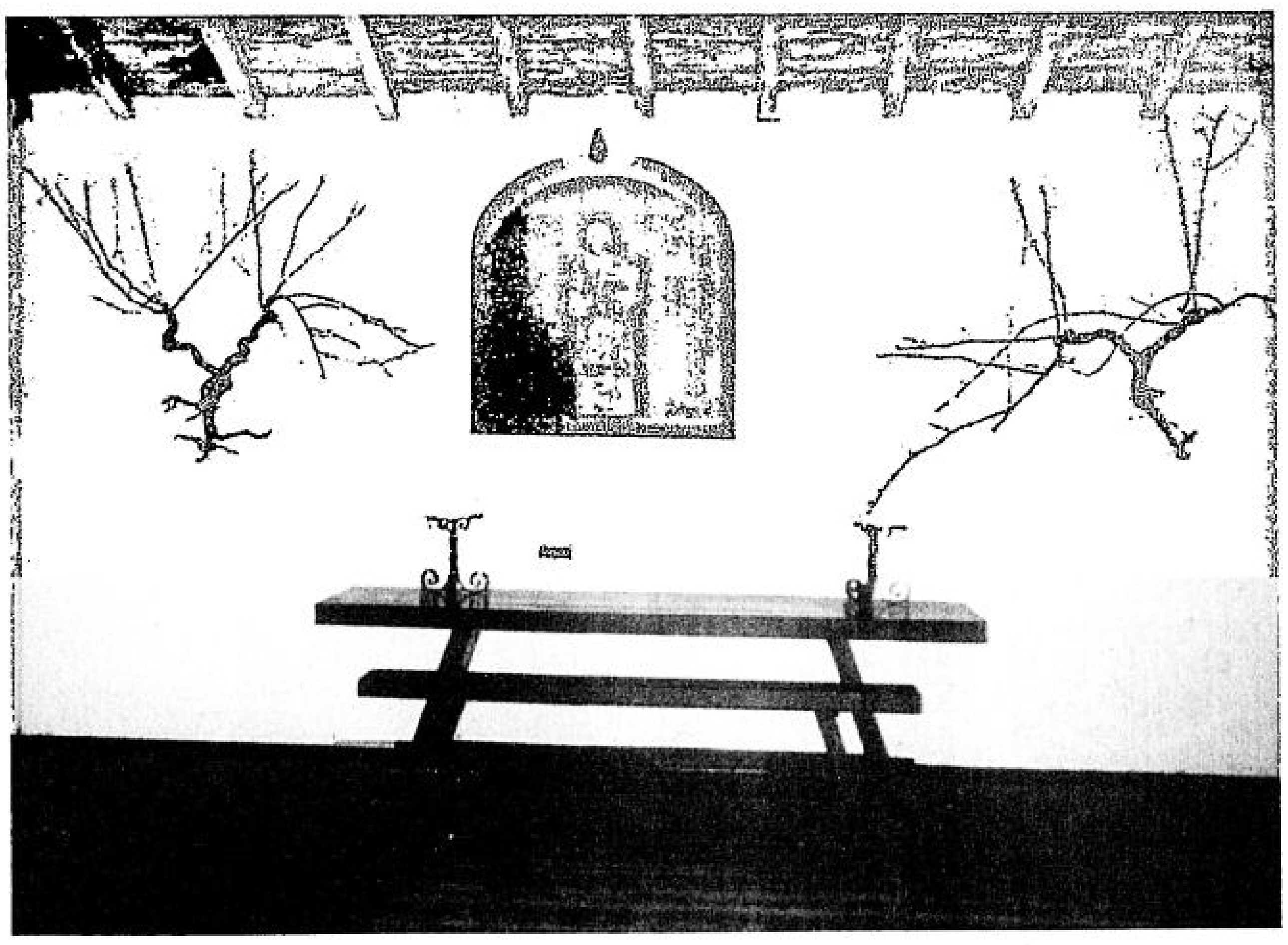
If you find a wine that you like, you should remember the vintage or year, advised Vincent. As for the Baron'Arques vintage 2000 which was my travel companions' object of desire, it has been described as a very good year indeed.

THROUGH/ K4

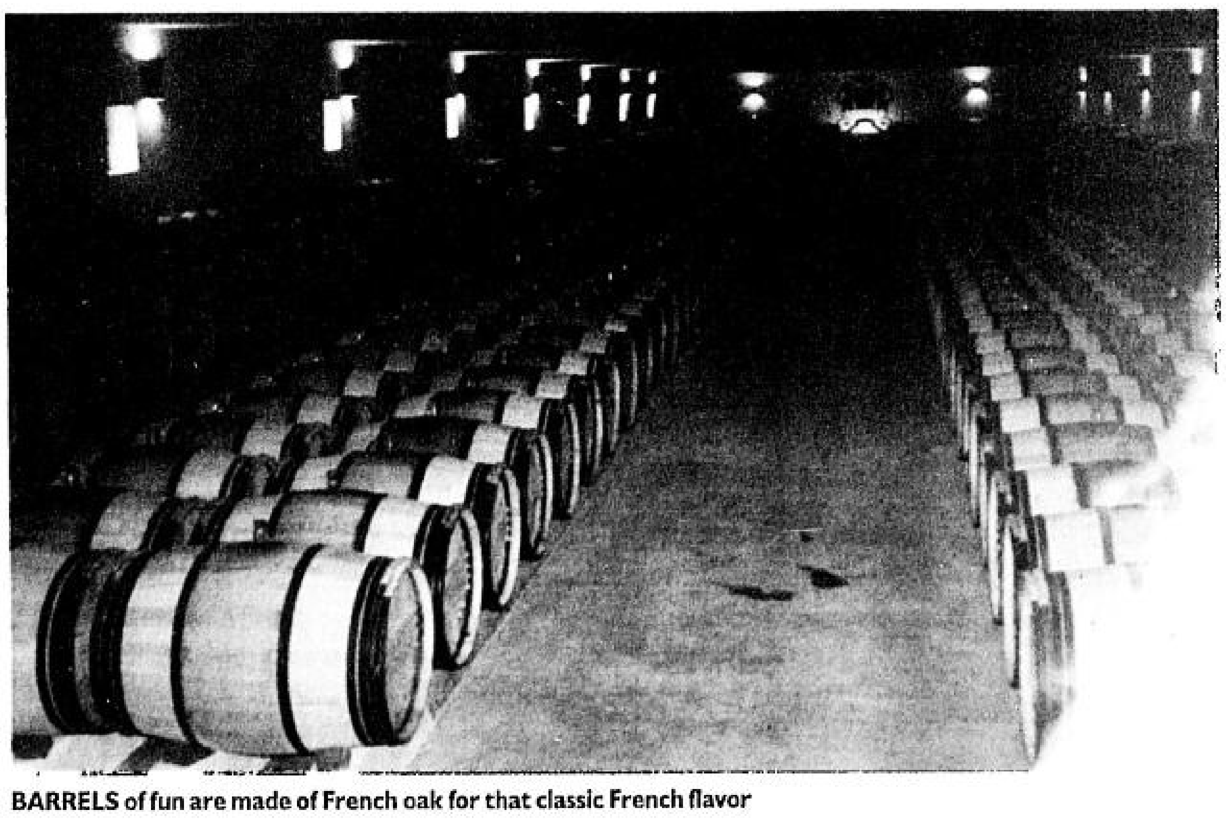
BPDR'S Martine Courtiade showing samples of vines planted in the front yard for the education of visitors...



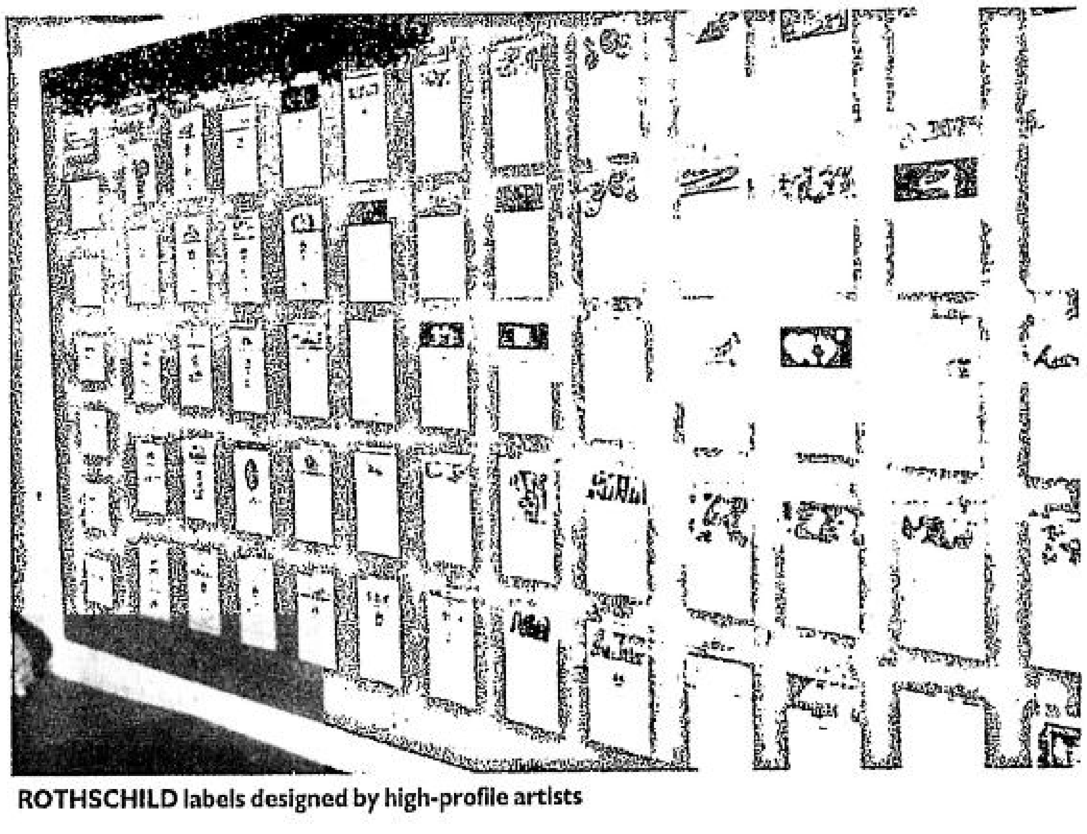
... and giving Filipino chefs a private tour of the vintage wine cellar at the chateau



VINTNER'S shrine at BPDR.



BARRELS of fun are made of French oak for that classic French flavor



ROTHSCHILD labels designed by high-profile artists

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Through the grapevine in Southern France

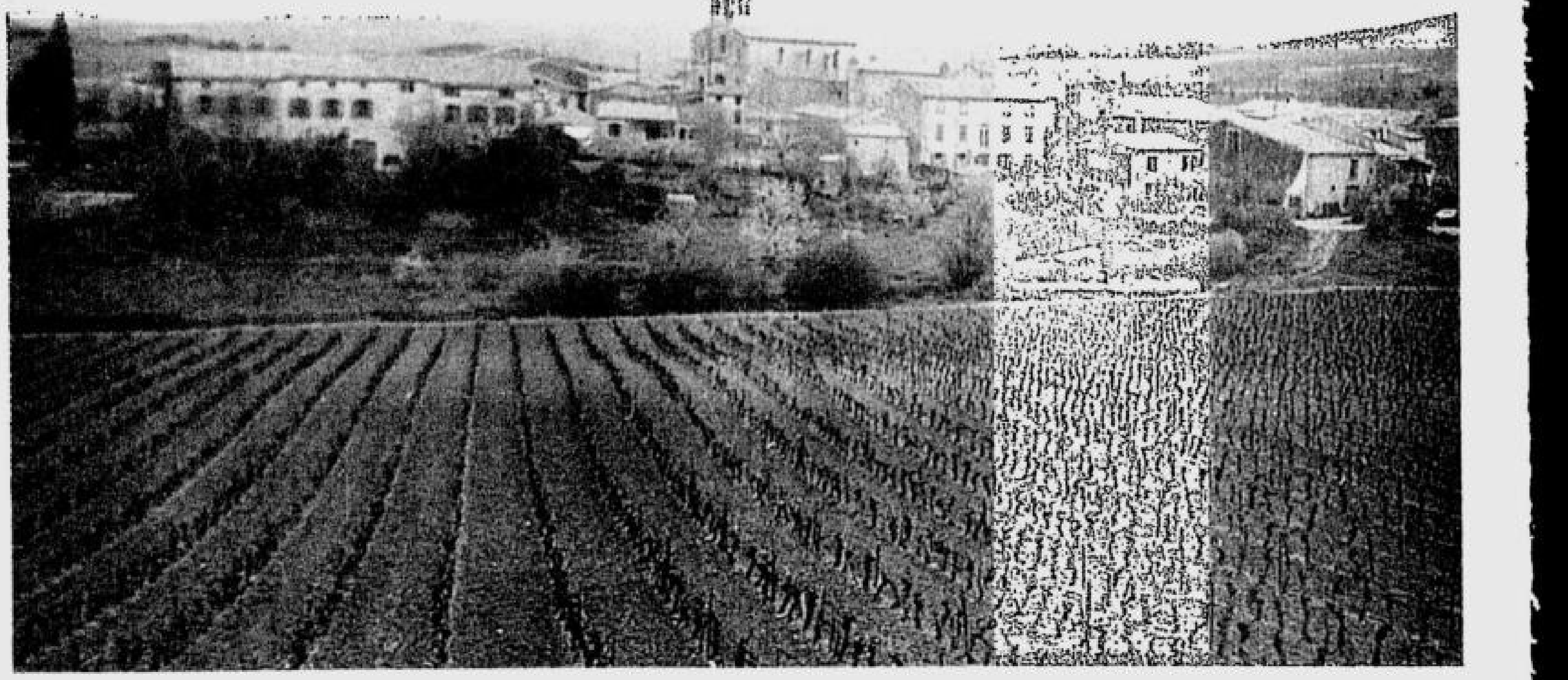
From page K3

By the time we got to the BPDR headquarters in Paulliac in the Bordeaux region, my companions were sold on the high-sigh qualities of Baron'Arques wines. It was hard not to be convinced because flawless French meal after flawless French meal, we were served Baron'Arques red.

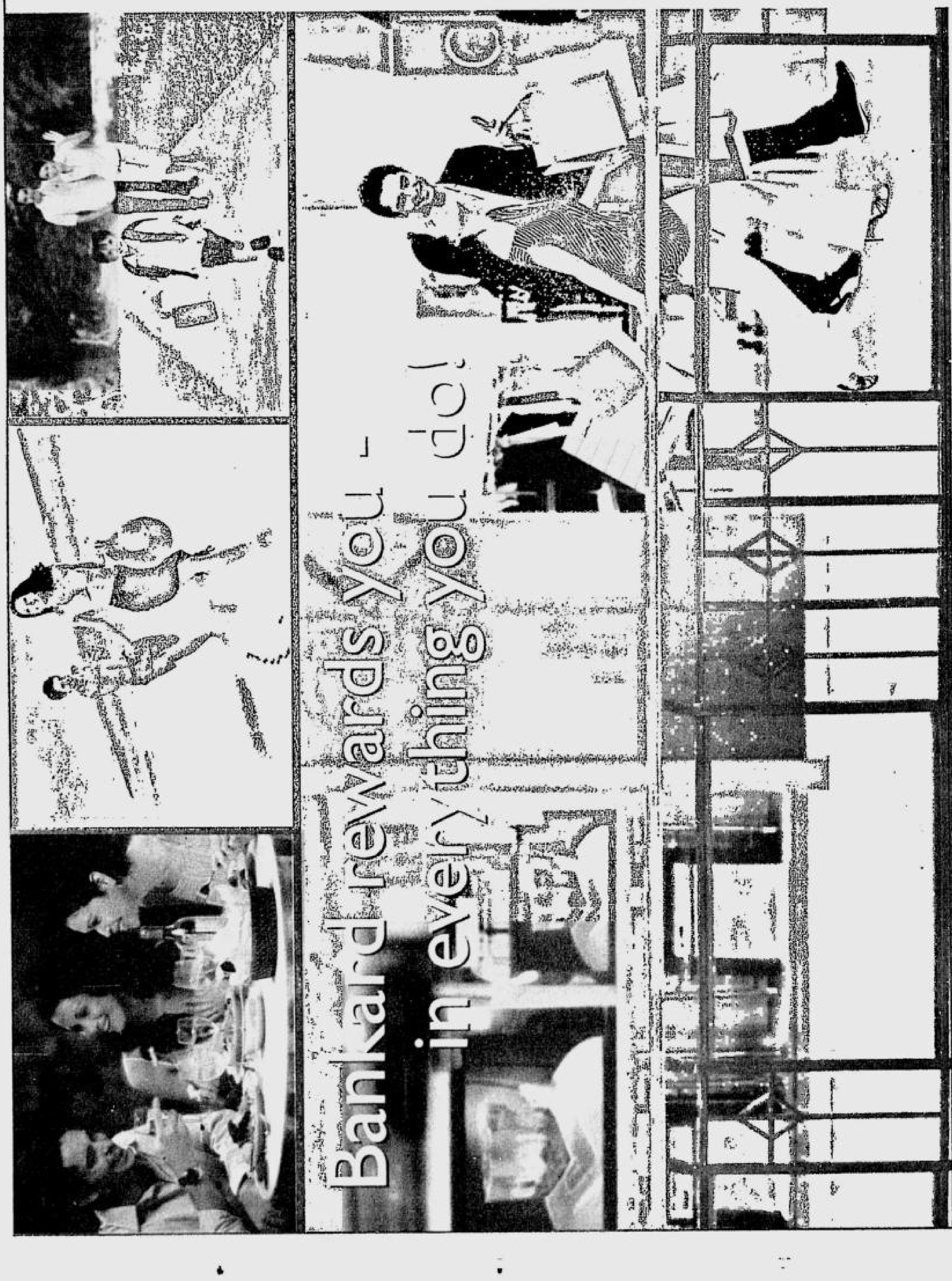
"Wine making is really quite a simple business—only the first 200 years are difficult," said Baroness Philippine de Rothschild in a video shown to visitors at the BPDR estate. Since taking over the wine empire upon her father Philippe's death, she has turned BPDR into a global headliner. And from what we saw at Baron'Arques, her vintners indeed had the art of winemaking down pat.

In a few weeks, bottles of the Baron'Arques Grand Cru red, perfect for gift-giving and the pleasurable feastings at Christmastime, will be arriving in the Philippines. Every bottle will bear a label that says the wine came from the barrel specially selected by Madame Glenda Barretto, by Madame Tita Meneses Trillo or by Monsieur Eugenio Lopez III.

BPDR and Baron'Arques wines are imported and distributed in the Philippines by Anthony's Wine Cellar, Inc.



IN THE 1970s, the grape growers of Languedoc revived their winemaking glory by ripping out acres of vines and adjusting the mix of grape varieties to perfectly suit local conditions.



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Credit card industry pioneer Bankard, Inc. seems to have the answer with its recently launched, newly fortified rewards program. Aptly dubbed "Bankard Infinite Rewards" and available to cardholders of Bankard MasterCard, Bankard Visa, and Bankard JCB, the concept of the rewards program is rooted on the belief that the best way to show cardholders appreciation for their loyalty is to make sure that they are rewarded for everything they do using their credit card whether this be for shopping, dining, travel, vacation or education.

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Christian did wonderful job with my song, says American composer

3 MEN & A SONG. Composer Andrew Fromm flanked by Christian Bautista (right) and singer/actor/manager Carlo Orosa

"I THINK he did an absolutely wonderful job," young American songwriter Andrew Fromm said of Christian Bautista's rendition of "The Way You Look at Me."

Fromm, who wrote the melody for Bautista's phenomenal hit, expressed all-out support for the singer during the New York leg of the Night of the Champions concert recently held at the Colden Theater.

"The melody came to me really late at night in my New Jersey home," the composer recalled. "I was upset at the time that I didn't have anyone in my life. So I imagined what I would like to feel if I did have someone. "The title kind of emerged because I've always been in love with the way people who are truly in love look into each other's eyes. Especially when they are getting married."

Fromm has written songs for other American and British recording artists, including the Backstreet Boys, NSync, Marc Anthony, Kci & JoJo, Westlife, and Gareth Gates. He has also produced songs for Celine Dion.

"The Way You Look at Me" is the carrier single of Bautista's debut album of the same title. The album recently made the double-platinum mark with 60,000 copies sold inside and outside the Philippines.

Warner Music Indonesia reported early this week that the single just entered various local charts' Top 10 and Top 20 listings.

The singer is currently waxing a second album for Warner Music Philippines.

HRISTOPHER REEVE
RALYSIS FOUNDATION

REEVE and wife Dana in 2003 REUTERS

Reeve's final film remains in production

NEWARK, New Jersey—A computer-animated film that Christopher Reeve had been directing at the time of his death will remain in production, company officials said.

This was revealed as the late actor's publicist announced last week that the body of the "Superman" actor has been cremated. One newspaper reported that the actor's ashes would be scattered to the wind.

"The cremation has taken place," said publicist Wesley Combs, who declined to give any details regarding the time and location of the ceremony.

Reeve died Sunday at Northern Westchester Hospital at Mount Kisco, New York, after suffering cardiac arrest and falling into a coma at his home.

"Yankee Irving," the working title of the animation movie, follows the story of a boy who overcomes personal obstacles to realize his large dreams.

Reeve had spent many hours working on the project, said Rob Kurtz, who wrote the script for the animated feature. IDT Entertainment had set up two large computer screens in Reeve's home in Pound Ridge, New York, so the actor-director, who was paralyzed in a 1995 horse-riding accident, could monitor work that was being done in the company's studios in Newark, as well as in Canada and Israel.

Reeve, 52, died Sunday of complications from an infection caused by a bedsore.

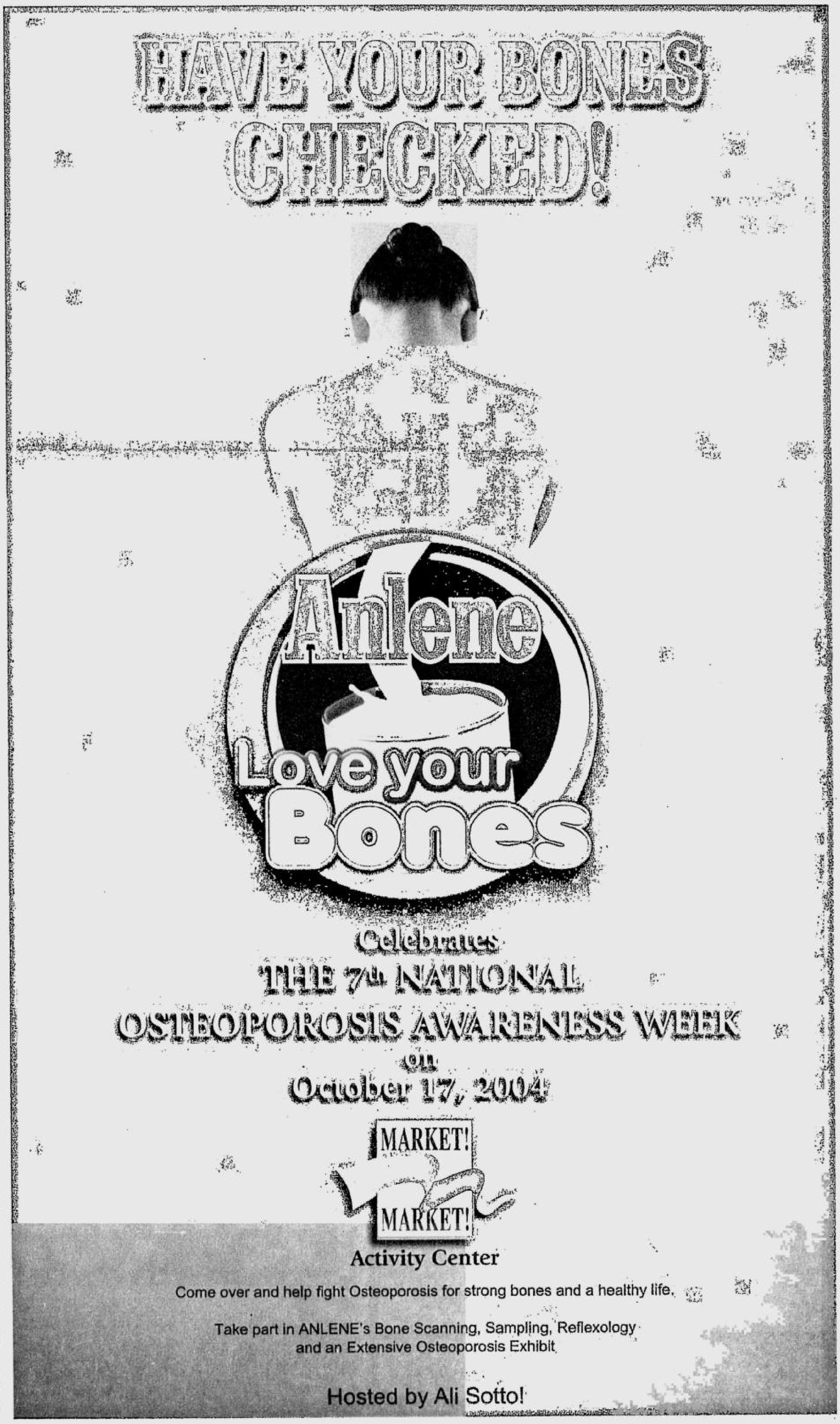
"The bulk of what he was doing as a director is fairly complete," Stephen Brown, chief financial officer of IDT, told The Star-Ledger of Newark for Tuesday's newspapers.

IDT said the film will arrive in theaters in 2006.

Company officials said they plan to keep Reeve's family involved as the remaining animation and post-production work are completed.

The New York Post reported Thursday that Reeve's widow, Dana, was planning to scatter the ashes herself.

It also said Dana Reeve was planning a large commemorative event at the Juilliard performing arts school in Manhattan, which her husband had attended as a student. *AFP*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2 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW	2 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW	2 HOUSEOF FLYING DAGGERS	6 SHARK TALE	GUARANTEED SEATS 2 SHARK TALE 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30	2 RAISING HELEN
3 LADDER 49	3 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 LADDER 49 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30	7 THREE	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10, 11:30	3 FAHRENHEIT 9/11
4 WIMBLEDON	4 SHARK TALE	4 OPEN WATER		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 WIMBLEDON 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30	4 GODSEND
5 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS				GUARANTEED SEATS 5 SKY CAPTAIN... 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00, 11:20	5 SHARK TALE

GB1 GREENBELT 1
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2 SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

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2 LADDER 49
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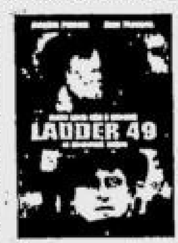
SM City Fairview Cinema 9
SM Tutuban Cinema 4
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 2
SM City Manila Cinema 6
SM City North Edsa Cinema 6
SM Megamall Cinema 4



LADDER 49 MTRCB Rating: PG 13

SM City Manila Cinema 1
SM Megamall Cinema 3
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 5
SM City Southmall Cinema 4
SM Tutuban Cinema 2
SM City Fairview Cinema 12
SM City Bicutan Cinema 1
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 1

OPEN WATER MTRCB Rating: PG 13

SM Fairview Cinema 11
SM Megamall Cinema 11
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 4
SM City Southmall Cinema 10
SM City Manila Cinema 7
SM City North Edsa Cinema 4

THE PUNISHER MTRCB Rating: R 13

SM City Manila Cinema 12
SM Megamall Cinema 6
SM City Fairview Cinema 12
SM City Southmall Cinema 6
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 10

SHARK TALE MTRCB Rating: G

SM City Fairview Cinema 8
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 7
SM City Bicutan Cinema 3
SM City Manila Cinema 2
SM City North Edsa Cinema 2
SM Megamall Cinema 9
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 4
SM City Southmall Cinema 2

SKY CAPTAIN AND THE WORLD OF TOMMOROW SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING

SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 3
SM Tutuban Cinema 1
SM City Bicutan Cinema 4
SM City North EDSA Cinema 5
SM Southmall Cinema 3
SM Megamall Cinema 2
SM City Manila Cinema 4
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 9
SM City Fairview Cinema 4

THREE MTRCB Rating: R 13

SM City Manila Cinema 10
SM City North Edsa Cinema 7
SM Megamall Cinema 7
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 6
SM City Fairview Cinema 10
SM City Southmall Cinema 9

BOURNE SUPREMACY MTRCB Rating: R 13
SM Megamall Cinema 5

FENG SHUI SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING
SM City Manila Cinema 9
SM City North Edsa Cinema 3
SM City Fairview Cinema 6
SM Megamall Cinema 8
SM City Sta.Mesa Cinema 1
SM City Southmall Cinema 7
SM City Tutuban Cinema 3

RESIDENT EVIL MTRCB Rating: R 13
SM City Manila Cinema 5
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 3
SM City North EDSA Cinema 1
SM Southmall Cinema 6
SM City Fairview Cinema 5
SM Megamall Cinema 10

WIMBLEDON SUBJECT TO MTRCB RATING
SM City Manila Cinema 11
SM Megamall Cinema 12
SM City Fairview Cinema 1

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SHOW STOPPER

TORO

Taiwan star sings Filipino songs

JUST when you think you've seen enough of Taiwan's young screen heartthrobs, here comes another one and he's a lot cuter, too.

Toro—who plays the lead character Ji Teng in the latest chinovela sensation from GMA, "Snow Angel"—just might be the next "crush *ng bayan.*"

The latest find from Taiwan, Toro, 23, is expected to draw a big, predominantly female following in the Philippines with his good looks and his talent for singing. Not only does he sing well, but he sings in Tagalog, too! Finally, a Taiwanese singer we can understand.

Ex-Energy

The local release of the official "Snow Angel" soundtrack from Warner Music Philippines will carry Filipino versions of the two theme songs from the show, "Ikaw Pa Rin" and "May Mahal Ka ng Iba." Toro amazingly sings in Filipino without losing his distinct Chinese sound.

A former member of the Taiwanese pop group Energy, Toro recently decided to go solo and to pour his heart out in this soundtrack, even if it means learning to sing in another language.

Manila visitor

Toro and fellow "Snow Angel" stars Margaret Wang Yu Jie and Johnny Yan Zing Shu came to Manila for the "Snow Angel" promo tour. Yesterday, they had a live performance and an autograph-signing session at SM North Edsa.

The "Snow Angel" soundtrack is now available in CDs and cassettes at your favorite record bars from Warner Music Philippines.

KAREL FOR BOBSON'S
Karel Marquez, 17, is Bobson's latest addition to its list of celebrity endorsers, chosen because she, like the brand, is cool, wholesome and stylish. Karel is in Bobson's "Keep It Real" campaign this holiday season. Catch her as she and another Bobson's endorser, Japoy Lizardo, are launched at Ratsky Tomas Morato on Oct. 30.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX

3	Dolby SKY CAPTAIN	12:50 pm 3:30 pm 6:10 pm 8:50 pm
4	SDDS LADDER 49	1:00 pm 3:40 pm 6:20 pm 9:00 pm
5	dts FLYING DAGGERS	12:35 pm 3:20 pm 6:05 pm 8:50 pm
6	Dolby SHARK TALE	12:10 am 2:20 pm 4:30 pm 6:40 pm 8:55 pm
7	Dolby FENG SHUI	11:35 am 1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8:55 pm

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Oct 17	ALASKA vs FEDEX 6:30 pm
Oct 20	SAN MIGUEL vs SHELL 7:20 pm
Oct 24	GINEBRA vs SHELL 6:30 pm
Oct 27	FEDEX vs COKE 7:20 pm
Oct 29	SAN MIGUEL vs RED BULL 7:20 pm

For tickets, call TicketNet at 911-5555

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	KARELASYON / NAG-AAPOY NA LAMAN
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	KAULAYAW
B	CLOSED
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1,2,3&4	LADDER 49 / SHARK TALE / THREE / FLYING DAGGERS
PREMIERE THEATRE	SKY CAPTAIN

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	MASARAP ANG UNANG KAGAT (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-2	PERLAS
CINEMA-3	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	LADDER 49
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	THE PUNISHER
CINEMA-6	WAG KANG KIKIBO (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-7	RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE
CINEMA-8	EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	LADDER 49
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SKY CAPTAIN & THE WORLD OF TOMORROW
CINEMA-12	THREE
CINEMA-14	SHARK TALE
CINEMA-15	OPEN WATER

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PINAS)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-1	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-2	SECRET WINDOW
CINEMA-4	BANGKOK HAUNTED 2

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

Star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

Starmall EDSA - SHAW
Tel. No. 726.61.50
- Ladder 49
- Flying Daggers
- Resident Evil 2

METROPOLIS ALABANG Star
Tel. No. 850.42.85
- Resident Evil 2
- Feng Shui
- Punisher
- Ladder 49
- Sky Captain
- Flying Daggers

Starmall LAS PIÑAS
Tel. No. 873.50.04
- Secretary
- IQ Zero

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SHANG CINEPLEX

① LADDER 49
FS: 11:20 AM, 2:00 PM, 4:40 PM, 7:20 PM LMF : 10:00 PM (PG-13)

② SHARK TALE
FS: 12:00 PM, 2:00 PM, 4:00 PM, 6:00 PM 8:00 PM, LMF : 10:00 PM (GP)

③ SKY CAPTAIN
FS: 12:00 PM, 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM LMF : 10:00 PM (GP)

④ HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
FS: 11:20 AM, 2:00 PM, 4:40 PM, 7:20 PM LMF : 10:00 PM (PG-13 with Caution)

PREMIERE THEATRE SHARK TALE
FS: 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM, 7 PM, LMF: 9 PM (GP)

For more information please call 633-2227 / 633-7851 loc. 171

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1	SHARK TALE	10:55, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 10:00	GP
2	LADDER 49	9:50, 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:10	PG 13
3	SKY CAPTAIN	10:35, 1:05, 3:35, 6:10, 8:35, 11:05	
4	HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGER	11:25, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:30	PG 13

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NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1	LADDER 49	11:35, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15	PG13
CINEMA 2	SKY CAPTAIN	11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50	GP

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DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

WIMBLEDON PG13 12:45,2:55,5:05,7:25,9:40	SHARK TALE GP 11:50,1:50,3:50,5:50,7:50,9:50	SKY CAPTAIN GP 12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00
HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS PG13 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10	SHARK TALE GP 11:00,1:00,3:00,5:00 LADDER 49 PG13 7:25,9:55	LADDER 49 PG13 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:30

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GALLERIA 632-9115 to 16

CINEMA 1 THX LADDER 49 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

2 LADDER 49 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00	3 THREE 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10.00	4 SHARK TALE 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
5 SKY CAPTAIN 10:20, 12.40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10.00	6 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10 00	7 OPEN WATER 12:30, 2:20, 4:10, 6.00, 7.50, 9:40
8 FENG SHUI 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	9 RESIDENT EVIL 2 12:40, 3:00, 5.20, 7:40, 10.00	10 WIMBLEDON 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

Regular Price: P150 THX / P100/70 for two levels cinemas / P100 for one level cinemas

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 SKY CAPTAIN 1:15, 3:35, 5:55, 8:15, 10:00

2 OPEN WATER 10:30, 12:20, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30	3 LADDER 49 1:40, 4:15, 6.55, 9:40	4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
5 SHARK TALE 10:20, 12.15, 2:10, 4 05, 6.00, 7:55, 9:50	6 THREE 1:40, 4:15, 6.50, 9:40	7 RESIDENT EVIL 2 10:40, 12:50, 3:00, 5:15, 7:25, 9:40

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 / 682-8280

1 WIMBLEDON 11:00, 1.00, 3.00, 5:00, 7:00, 9.00	5 SKY CAPTAIN 11:50, 2:30, 5.10, 7.50, 10:30
2 RESIDENT EVIL 2 11:30, 1:50, 4:20, 6.40, 9.10	6 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 11:20, 1:40, 4.00, 6:20, 8 30, 10:30
3 FENG SHUI 11:00, 1:00, 3.00, 5.00, 7 00, 9:00	7 LADDER 49 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
4 THREE 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00	8 SHARK TALE 10.50, 12:50, 2.50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50, 10:30

NOVALICHES 935-3229 / 31

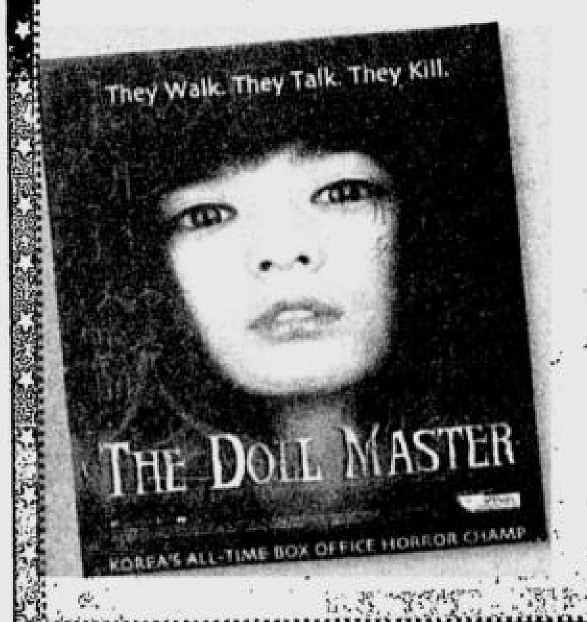
1 LADDER 49 11:00, 1.25, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40	5 SHARK TALE 11:00, 1.00, 3 00, 5:00, 7.00, 8:45
2 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 12.10, 2.50, 5 30, 8:15	6 THREE 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:15
3 FENG SHUI 11:00, 1:20, 3 40, 6 00, 8:30	7 SKY CAPTAIN 10:15, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8.20
4 THE PUNISHER 1:00, 3.30, 6.00, 8:30	8 RESIDENT EVIL 2 11:00, 1.20, 3:40, 6.00, 8.25

Citisquare MALABON 288-0985/2575

1 SHARK TALE 10:30, 12.30, 2.30, 4 30, 6:30, 8:30	3 THE PUNISHER 11:10, 1:30, 3 50, 6:10, 8:30
2 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 11.10, 1 30, 3 50, 6 10, 8 30	4 FENG SHUI 11:10, 1:30, 3:50, 6:10, 8:30

CAINTA 240-4661

1 SHARK TALE 10:30, 12 30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30	3 THREE 11:30, 2:20, 5.10, 8:00
2 LADDER 49 11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40	4 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS 11:00 1:20, 3 40, 6 00, 8 20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A miracle concert

"SIMPLY AMAZING" is how Martin Nievera (left) describes the work of Gawad Kalinga, while Gary V calls it mind-boggling.

By Ansel Beluso
Contributor

SHOW TIME

THE GAWAD Kalinga "Bawa't Pilipino, Bayani" concert held last Oct. 2 at The Fort was a spectacle not only for the eyes but also for the heart.

The concert grounds gave a glimpse of the heaven that Gawad Kalinga aims to build in now 230 sites nationwide. Spread all over the vast open space were 35 beautifully landscaped and colorfully painted GK homes that eloquently and emphatically expressed the GK 777 vision of building 700,000 houses for the poor in seven thousand communities in seven years.

The concert was spectacular, and not just because it had all the fabulous elements of a world-class production, complete with invisible harnesses and laser beams, confetti bombs and fireworks, a humongous stage and numerous video walls scattered all over the venue.

It wasn't just that Martin Nievera, Gary V, Kuh Ledesma, the Apo, Robert Seña, Isay Alvarez, Carla Martinez and Joel Torre gave their all.

It wasn't just that more than 100,000 people flocked to the concert venue that night despite the threat of rain.

It wasn't just that the Gawad Kalinga cocktails held an hour before the concert was graced by very important people—led by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Vice President Noli de Castro, former President Cory Aquino, other high-ranking government officials, members of the diplomatic community and top business leaders.

It was also because the show itself gave people a palpable sense that they weren't just watching a concert but witnessing the unfolding of a magnificent miracle.

The Gawad Kalinga "Bawat Pilipino, Bayani" concert marked the first anniversary of this multi-sectoral anti-poverty effort spearheaded by Couples for Christ.

Hours before the show started, a stream of expectant people began to flow in. Many of them were not your ordinary concert-goers. Many had never before gone to a concert, and watching a major one like this was not even in their list of dreams.

But come they did not just to watch a concert but to claim their rightful place as stakeholders and partners in the building of the nation. There they were—the scavengers of Payatas and Smokey Mountain, the pedicab drivers and vendors of Bagong Silang, the construction boys and factory girls of Baseco, the daily wage earners of Kaingin and Towerville.

That was one Gawad Kalinga miracle right there— making it possible for the so-called great unwashed to partake of a musical banquet that nourished the senses and the soul.

Another touching sight was both the well-heeled and the unshod came. Most came from the Couples for Christ family renewal community, one group where members relate to one another as true brothers and sisters, united not only in their faith but also in their fellowship with each other.

Martin was visibly blown away. A month before, when GK was being explained to him, the concert king was already excited to discover that there was this program dedicated to building homes and hopes for the Philippines.

Liabilities to assets

"Simply amazing!" was the phrase Martin chose to describe the feeling. The pun was intentional, as he must surely have been referring not just to GK but also to SMART, the concert's major sponsor of which he is an image model.

"The Gawad Kalinga message is quite simple," the concert king continued. "Every Filipino has a hero inside and, for this country to rise again, we just need to bring out that hero. And when heroes gather and work together, miracles inevitably happen."

Gary was quick to agree. "Last year, I was quite lucky to have already been asked to be a partner of GK. This work boggled my mind, especially when I realized that the very excellent dancers who performed with me onstage in the concert that launched Gawad Kalinga were actually former juvenile delinquents, reformed drug users, *akyat-bahay* members, petty thieves.

"How GK has transformed those who used to be a menace to society into useful citizens is truly a miracle. From liabilities, these young and talented people have become assets."

Directed by Maria Montelibano, the concert was also an opportunity for the likes of Martin and Gary to actively help and express their individual heroism.

The artists who performed in the concert did not receive professional fees. Instead, Gawad Kalinga homes will be built in their name.

Kuh, who also performed in the GK concert last year, happily recounted her personal experience. "I got to help build a GK house in Payatas Trese," she revealed. "Something happened to me inside. I mean, we all talk about what we should do to help the poor. Gawad Kalinga, for me, is the bridge that crosses from talking to doing. This is really God's work."

Hope and heroism

An extravagant opening number, supported by a video presentation, brought the audience to a dizzying roller-coaster ride through Philippine history. Then, Couples for Christ's Frank Padilla delivered a report on the GK work, which contextualized the role of Gawad Kalinga in the task of rebuilding the country.

What followed were a series of musical vignettes that wove a tapestry of hope and heroism into the fabric of our life as a nation. The number showcasing the inspiring acts of generosity of GK heroes and champions was particularly heartwarming.

One British millionaire sold his luxurious car to build more than 600 GK homes. A Filipino couple in the US sold their mansion and transferred to a much smaller home to donate one GK village.

Another Filipino immigrant in the US gave several parcels of land in Batangas to build a GK village as a relocation site for informal settlers. Former Customs chief Tony Bernardo revealed how he exhorted more than half of his people to embrace GK and how, since he left the agency, he has dedicated himself to the work.

HOPEFUL. Gary V and kids in one of the musical vignettes of hope and heroism

A Filipino businessman confessed to having been money-mad before but, since embracing GK, has committed himself to work for a better quality of life for the poor. And he is auctioning off his brand-new BMW on Dec. 18 to build two GK communities

Ateneo students, alumni and faculty, under the leadership of Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, have built the Blue Eagle GK village in Payatas, Quezon City, transforming the former slum area into a vibrant and productive community. Just a stone's throw away, a mudslide once claimed hundreds of lives.

Filling, fulfilling

The second half of the concert where Martin, Gary, Kuh and the other artists performed served as a fitting dessert to an already filling and fulfilling evening.

There are only six years left for GK to fulfill its promise. Tomorrow has already been claimed. A bright future awaits this country.

This much was clear from the GK miracle concert.

'How GK has changed those who used to be a menace to society into useful citizens is truly a miracle'

Van Helsing, ghostbuster

HUGH Jackman in the title role and Kate Beckinsale in "Van Helsing"

SHOW TIME

IF THERE'S something "strange" in your neighborhood, who're you gonna call?

Why, you call on the legendary ghostbuster, Van Helsing, of course!

That's exactly what a beneficent medieval coalition did in its desperate, last-ditch attempt to purge its world of ghouls, monsters and other demons.

Deep in the mountains of Carpathia lies the mysterious and mythic land of Transylvania, a world where evil is ever-present, where danger rises and monsters take form as the sun sets.

Filmmaker Stephen Sommers blends the recognizable and the unimaginable into a vivid, epic backdrop for his tale of ultimate evil against a lone force of good: Van Helsing.

In the movie, Van Helsing (Hugh Jackman) joins forces with the fearless Anna Valerious (Kate Beckinsale), who is on a crusade to rid her family of a generations-old curse by defeating the enigmatically powerful Count Dracula (Richard Roxburgh).

"Van Helsing" also features Will Kemp as Velkan, Kevin O'Connor as Igor, David Wenham as Friar Carl, and the seductive trio of Elena Anaya, Silvia Colloca and Josie Maran as Dracula's bloodthirsty brides.

The "Van Helsing" video will be officially launched via a thematic pre-Halloween event in late October. Early buyers can get the chance to join the raffle promo and get the chance to win Van Helsing action figurines.

"Van Helsing" is now available on video from Universal Home Entertainment and is exclusively distributed in the Philippines by C-Interactive Digital Entertainment.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

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PREMIERE THEATRE
(DOLBY) SKY CAPTAIN GP
1 (DOLBY) LADDER 49 PG-13
2 (DOLBY) SHARK TALE GP
3 (DOLBY) THREE R-13
4 (DOLBY) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS PG-13

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CINERAMA COMPLEX RECTO
tel 733.4238
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2. THREE
3. RESERVE
4. LADDER 49
5. HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

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(Caloocan) tel 364.3781
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 RESERVE
4 (SDDS) RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 (DOLBY) RESERVE
7 (DTS) RESERVE
8 RESERVE
9 RESERVE

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
2 LADDER 49

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) MIND HUNTERS
2 KIRIDA
3 MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL
4 (DTS) THE EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

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1 (DDS) WIMLEDON
2 (SDDS) PUNISHER
3 (DTS) THREE
4 GOLD (DTS) SHARK TALE
5 GOLD (DOLBY) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
6 GOLD (SDDS) LADDER 49
7 GOLD (DOLBY) SKY CAPTAIN
8 FENG SHUI
9 OPEN WATER
10 RESIDENT EVIL

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3 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

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2 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
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1 (DOLBY) SECRETARY
2

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E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72
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2 (DOLBY) LADDER 49
3 (DOLBY) SKY CAPTAIN
4 (DOLBY) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT
Araneta Center
ALIMALL CINEPLEX
Tel. 911-3101 loc. 8242 / 8281 / 8397
3 (Dolby) SKY CAPTAIN
4 (SDDS) LADDER 49
5 (DTS) FLYING DAGGERS
6 (Dolby) SHARK TALE
7 (Dolby) FENG SHUI

starmall Movies
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3 SKY CAPTAIN
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5 LADDER 49

METROPOLIS star
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2 PUNISHER
3 SKY CAPTAIN
4 FENG SHUI
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6 LADDER 49

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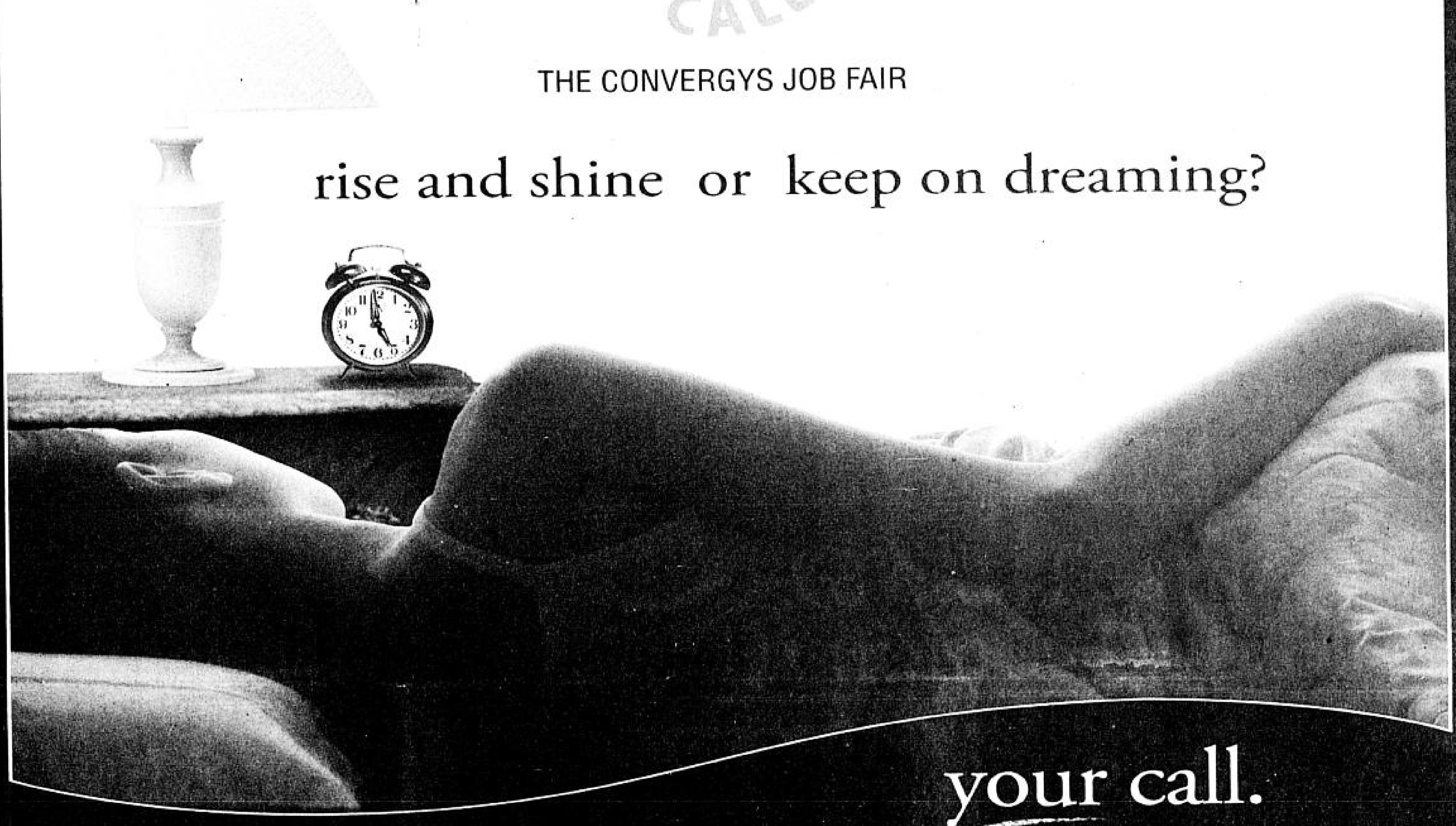
WAKE-UP CALL

THE CONVERGYS JOB FAIR

rise and shine or keep on dreaming?



your call.

Wake up to a day of possibilities.
There are job opportunities brewing up.
This is your Convergys Wake-Up Call!

We are looking for dynamic, highly-motivated and passionate TECHNICAL CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES and CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES to be part of the global leader in customer care services.

Join the Convergys Job Fair on October 17 - 20 at Expo Exchange, 2nd Floor, Greenbelt 1 from 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

Be an early bird or come in groups of 7 and get Convergys Collectibles for FREE!

An equal opportunity employer
Previous applicants may re-apply 6 months after initial application.

Makati Office: 7th Floor, Tower 2, The Enterprise Center,-6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, 1200 **Ortigas Office:** 24th Floor, Robinsons Equitable Tower, #4 ADB Avenue corner Poveda Street, Ortigas Center **Alabang Office:** Blk 44 Northgate Cyberzone Alabang, Muntinlupa City **Cebu Office:** 4th floor, Eduardo Aboitiz Development Studies Center (EADSC) 35 Lopez Jaena St. Cebu City.

CONVERGYS
www.convergys.com

BRITISH COUNCIL
VSO Sharing skills Changing lives
VSO BAHAGINAN

Global Xchange

young people active in the community

Global Xchange in the Philippines is a partnership between three organizations, namely British Council, VSO Philippines and VSO Bahaginan. These organizations are equally committed to the idea that International Volunteer Exchanges can help develop active global citizens, who are committed to working for positive change and can positively impact local communities in the UK and in the Philippines. Global Xchange Philippines is an exchange programme that brings young people from the UK and from Philippines to live alongside each other and work together as volunteers so they can share their learning with their host communities.

GLOBAL XCHANGE PROJECT is looking for a

PROJECT SUPERVISOR (JOB CODE: GXPS)

The Post Holder is expected :

- To work with a counterpart UK Project Supervisor for facilitating the implementation of the 6-month programme in the UK and here in the Philippines. The Philippine Project Supervisor is expected to develop the programme in the Philippines host community.
- To live in or near the Philippine host community for the planning and preparation phase and during the three months of the Philippine part of the exchange. Hours will be irregular and the Project Supervisor will need to be available on call for participants and take a lead in providing support during the Philippine phase of the programme.

It is important for applicants to realize that this is a very demanding role – and definitely not a typical 8-5 job!

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Project development in the Philippine host community

- To develop key community contacts and support/resources needed for setting up the Philippine phase of the exchange.
- To identify, recruit and orient suitable work placements and host families.
- To develop the Philippine phase of the programme to reflect the core components of the Global Xchange programme.

2. Supervise and support volunteers

- To work with the counterpart Project Supervisor to ensure adequate support and supervision of volunteers. To include supporting volunteers in relationships with: host families, counterpart pairs and work placement supervisors.
- To help all parties mentioned above to resolve problems as and when they arise.
- To be responsible for the health and safety of volunteers during the programme.
- To promote and encourage appropriate behaviour and implement disciplinary procedures if volunteers do not maintain agreed standards of behaviour.

3. Facilitate Training and Learning

- To coordinate training courses at the start of the Philippine phase.
- To work in collaboration with the UK Project Supervisor to facilitate the community orientation on arrival in the host community and to supervise Educational Activity Days, the Mid-Project Review and the debrief in both phases of the programme.
- To help volunteers identify and develop personal objectives and facilitate individual learning throughout the programme.
- To promote learning amongst volunteers regarding global and cross-cultural issues.

4. Communication with the Project Management Committee/ Implementing Partner Organisation

- To keep the Project Management Committee regularly informed about the progress of Global Xchange teams in the host communities, including any medical or health and safety issues.
- To act as a representative of the Global Xchange Programme/Implementing Partner at all times.
- To undertake any other duties associated with the position.

5. Budget management

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Person Specification

- A college degree
- experience in working with 17-25 year olds from a wide range of background
- proven ability to facilitate learning in a non-formal environment for this age group
- has direct and substantial experience in working cross-culturally
- able to communicate to a range of audiences & has strong written communication skills for writing reports, publicity materials
- knowledge of issues common to communities in the Philippines, preferably on Peace & Development
- significant experience in working in supervisory role
- hold a Philippine passport possibly traveled overseas
- willing and able to live and work outside own community in the Philippines
- able to work irregular hours including considerable weekend work.

This post is initially offered on a per project basis – initially for a year.

Closing date: 25 October 2004
Interview Date : 3 November 2004
Preference Starting date: November 16, 2004

Please submit a letter of intent with your comprehensive resume, and specify the Job Code to: Director at bahaginan@vsoint.org Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

中富航空
CR AIRWAYS

CR Airways Ltd., a home base airline in Hong Kong, invites high caliber and diligent candidates to fill the following vacancies:

1. Line Captain

(REF: HR/RE-PH/04Oct/001)

2. Flight Officer

(REF: HR/RE-PH/04Oct/002)

Requirements

- (Line Captain) Minimum 5000 hours total flight time in which 1000 hours PIC must be on commercial jets.
- (Flight Officer) Minimum 1500 hours total flight time in which 500 hours must be on commercial jets.
- Experience on commercial airline operation is preferable.
- Applicants should be able to relocate to Hong Kong at short notice.

We offer attractive remuneration and generous fringe benefits to the successful candidates. Interested parties please send full resumé with expected salary to: hr@crairways.com or by post to Human Resources Departmen, 33/F, 118 Connaught Road West, Hong Kong.

Please refer to www.crairways.com for more information about our company.

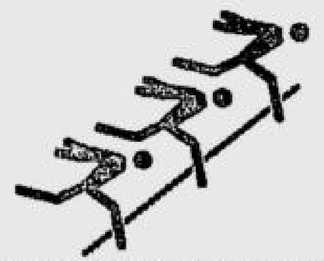
We are a leader in delivering high performance solid-state drive and storage management solutions to the military, industrial, enterprise and consumer markets worldwide. We seek highly qualified professionals to fill in the following position for our International Headquarters in Manila.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT ENGINEER

The Customer Support Engineer will interface with customers to provide pre- and post-sales technical support. The CSE shall act as the first level of technical interaction for the sales team. The CSE shall also document calls and monitor resolution status and assit in troubleshooting storage products, write user manuals, and other technical material. The CSE shall interface with the R&D, Sales and Marketing teams from international office and headquarters on a regular basis.

- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering, Computer Science or equivalent combination of education and experience. Experience as a Technical Support Representative in a call center environment is a plus.
- General storage interface knowledge: SCSI drives, IDE and Fibre Channel
- Experience with Linux, UNIX and Windows operating systems, including Windows 98, NT, 2000 and XP.
- Must have strong communication and inter-personal skills, high customer and quality orientation. Must be able to work with minimal supervision.
- Proficiency in MS Office and Adobe Acrobat and/or FrameMaker.

Qualified candidates may send their comprehensive resumés to bntech@info.com.ph no later than 31 October 2004. We regret that only short-listed candidates will be notified.



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Ernst & Young Singapore is one of Singapore's leading professional services firms. We are dedicated to providing clients with a full range of services to help clients effectively realize opportunities.

We have immediate vacancies in our Audit and Global Financial Services departments. Successful candidates will be working across a diverse portfolio of high profile clients on projects that will present them with the kind of challenges and responsibilities that will stretch their skills to the fullest.

We are looking for Audit Managers/Seniors/Experienced Assistants who have:

- A recognised accountancy degree/professional accountancy qualification
- Post-qualifying experience in the area of auditing. Candidates with experience in financial services or insurance industries will be considered for our Global Financial Services department or our specialized insurance industry teams.
- An analytical mind, an eye for details, and well-developed communication, negotiation and networking skills

We offer the opportunity to relocate to Singapore at a very competitive salary and outstanding benefits (including relocation assistance and work permit application support.)

To apply, please email your CV and covering letter to our Manila office at duane.s.sabado@ph.ey.com quoting reference *PH001* and your name in the subject box.

(We regret that only shortlisted candidates will be notified). Closing date: 31 October 2004

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ZUELLIG PHARMA
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SCHWARZ
PHARMA

Zuellig Pharma Corporation has been setting the standard of excellence in pharmaceutical distribution and marketing services across the Philippines for more than 50 years. We serve over 80 multinational pharmaceutical and healthcare companies and more than 9,000 customers including hospitals, clinics, doctors and pharmacies.

Exceptional young men and women are now being sought to expand the growing presence of one of our principal account line. The Philippine subsidiary of **Schwarz Pharma AG** of Monheim, Germany is considering applications for:

MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES

(POSITION CODE: **SCHWARZ-MR-04**)

The job is for those who can respond effectively to the rapid changing demands in the medical practice to provide superior health care to more patients through professional relationship with physicians.

Minimum requirements include:

- College Graduate
- Superior Communication Skills
- Pleasant Personality
- Excellent Health
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines

For those who qualify, the job offers meaningful career development and advancement. Compensation at par with industry including realistic and attractive incentive schemes.

If you dare to take this opportunity, you may submit your resume together with a copy of your transcript of records not later than October 21, 2004:

- Via email at schwarz@zuelligpharma.com.ph
- Fax through (02) 867-3194
- Deliver or mail it to: HRD Recruitment, 2nd floor Zuellig Pharma Building, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., P.O. Box 2587, 1265, Makati City, Philippines

Please indicate the position code SCHWARZ-MR-04 on your application letters and resumé.

WE ARE IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING
FOR OUR EXPANSION!!!

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING MANAGER

- Not over 40 years old; preferably male
- Marketing graduate with exposure in furniture industry in managerial capacity.
- Well exposed in import / export and customs processing
- Can communicate well in verbal and written English and Chinese
- Strong negotiation and organizational skills; aggressive
- Willing to be on short-term assignment overseas

MARKETING MANAGER

- Not over 45 years old
- Graduate of Marketing or any business course
- MBA degree is an advantage
- At least 5 years relevant experience in Marketing in a senior capacity preferably in the Furniture industry
- Ability to conceptualize and implement sales and marketing strategies
- With proven track record in sales and marketing
- With strong planning, organizational, leadership and negotiation skills

MERCHANDISERS

- Not over 35 years old
- Graduate of any business course
- Innovative, dynamic with keen sense of furniture trends.

Interested applicants should send their resumé with latest 2x2 picture not later than Oct. 23, 2004 to:

CLCMV Corporation
114 Sauyo Road, Novaliches
Quezon City

Or E-mail: hrd@clcmv.com.ph

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

OFFICE CLERK

- Female, 20-30 years of age, single
- Must be Computer Science graduate
- At least (1) year experience
- Must be flexible and can work under pressure.

Interested applicant please bring your resumé or send with 2x2 picture, transcript of records at:

A & W MULTI STEEL CORP.
Rm. 802 GEDISCO TOWER
534 Asuncion St., Binondo, Manila
Tel. 241-92-51 to 58

BUS COMPANY EXPANSION

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Male/ late 20's ME graduate, w/ experience, send bio-data w/ picture & contact no. to:

c/o P.O. Box no. 024-04VL
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Ground Floor Trinity Bldg.
No. 636 TM Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila

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Oracle Corporation, the world's largest enterprise software company, with annual revenues of more than US$ 10.1 Billion, is expanding its Oracle University Asia Pacific Call Center.

Oracle University is the world's largest training institution providing training to over 200,000 customers annually in 60 countries worldwide.

We are looking for the following positions for its Philippine office:

EDUCATION SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Code: ESR
- Minimum of 2 years experience in field sales or telesales
- Excellent communication skills and proficient in *business* English
- Previous team leader or supervisory experience is an advantage
- Must have a track record of achieving quotas or sales targets
- Must be able to work well in a team environment
- Software or IT Services sales experience an advantage
- Knowledge of Oracle's Database technology or eBusiness Suite products an advantage
- College degree required

CALL CENTER SUPERVISORS

Code: CCS
- Must have exceptional people management skills
- Minimum of 2 years experience in managing a field sales or telesales team
- Excellent communication skills and proficient in *business* English
- Must have a track record of leading a team to achieving group quotas or sales targets
- Software or IT Services sales experience an advantage
- Knowledge of Oracle's Database technology or eBusiness Suite products an advantage
- College degree required

ORACLE INSTRUCTORS

Code: EAS
- Minimum of 2 years teaching experience
- Excellent communication skills and proficient in *business* English
- Knowledge of Oracle's Database technology and eBusiness Suite products required
- College degree required

Submit your resumé on or before:

22 Oct 2004

Email: hr-id_ph@oracle.com

LEARN ORACLE FROM ORACLE | Oracle University

19th Floor Pacific Star Building, Sen. Gil Puyat cor. Makati Avenue, Makati City 1200

Please indicate in the subject: Applying for Code: _______

DKT Philippines, Inc., a non-government, non-profit and non-stock organization involved in the sales and distribution of contraceptive products is in need of the following individuals for:

Franchise Operations Manager

Job Description:

The Franchise Operations Manager will be responsible for the development, operation, and expansion of a franchise undertaking in the Philippines. He/She will manage this effort within a department consisting of professionals engaged in collaborative efforts with government units, industrial entities, health service providers, and non-governmental organizations.

Job Requirements:

The successful candidate will be a results-oriented individual with proven entrepreneurial, management, and leadership skills. He/She will be a strategic thinker, a change agent, and a team player with a hands-on approach to work that will contribute to high levels of achievement within the organization. He/She must have exceptional proven skills in written and oral communications, public speaking and presentations, problem solving and analysis, and decision-making.

The candidate must meet the following minimum requirements:
- College Degree in Business Management or equivalent. A Master's Degree is an added advantage.
- Minimum of five (5) years relevant experience in sales, marketing or franchise system development and operation.
- A track record of high achievement.
- Highly organized, systematic, and hands-on work ethic.
- Proficient in computer programs.

Applicants can look forward to an industry competitive package. Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resume thru mail or e-mail, no later than October 15, 2004:

Attention: Human Resources Department
DKT Philippines, Inc.
Suite 801, The Linden Suites
37 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Pasig City
E-mail: hrd@frenzy.com.ph

Nurses.... why leave your home and family?????

If you are a Certified Philippine Nurse, we have a one of a kind opportunity for you!!!!!

A specialized American Outsourcing Company, providing a wide-range of telephone & web-based medical services, has a communication center staffed with healthcare professionals in the Philippines.

The Company is looking for experienced, **Certified Philippine Nurses** to be Call Center Agents, who will be trained to support US-based clients in a variety of healthcare related industries.

WHAT WE OFFER:
- No need to leave your home and your family
- Paid training program
- Excellent compensation & benefits package
- Opportunity for significant personal growth
- Work with leading U.S. Healthcare Organizations

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Requires excellent ENGLISH communication skills (oral & written)
- Computer Literate
- Able to Document Meticulously
- Possess Critical Thinking Skills
- Capacity to Function Independently
- Work well in Stressful Situations
- Willing to undergo training and work various SHIFTS
- Has strong work ethics and good work attitude

Interested applicants can email their application letters, together with a comprehensive resumé to nurse@medicall.us for consideration:

Krexim (Philippines), Inc.

PRODUCT COSTING MANAGER

- Female, 25-30 years old
- Accounting or Industrial Engineering graduate
- Computer literate, must have a keen sense for details and is comfortable with numbers

Interested candidates may submit their resumé, 2x2 picture, Transcript of Records and other credentials to:

The Personnel Manager
Km 19 Brgy. Sta. Monica, Novaliches, Q.C.

Technotest

IS IN NEED OF

CIVIL ENGINEER

MALE, 25 - 30 YRS. OLD, COMPUTER PROFICIENT, WITH COMMUNICATION SKILLS, PREFERABLY WITH KNOWLEDGE IN GEOTECHNICAL ENG'G

APPLY IN PERSON COMPLETE WITH YOUR RESUME AND 2 PCS. 1" X 1" I.D. PICTURE AT 893 EDSA, Q.C.
TEL. NOS.: 924-2004 / 924-2007

VOCAL COACHES FOR POP SINGING

For residents of: Quezon City; Lagro, Novaliches; Marikina; Masinag, Antipolo; Marulas, Valenzuela; Makati; Paranaque; Las Pinas; San Pedro, Laguna; Lipa, Batangas; and Calapan, Mindoro

MALE / FEMALE • 21 - 25 YEARS OLD • GRADUATE OF ANY 4-YEAR COURSE
ARTICULATE IN ENGLISH AND FILIPINO • WITH PLEASING PERSONALITY
WILLING TO UNDERGO TRAINING

CENTER FOR POP MUSIC
Philippines, Inc.
BRING OUT THE STAR IN YOUR VOICE!

Interested applicant may submit resume to or apply personally, Monday to Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at

CENTER FOR POP MUSIC PHILIPPINES, INC.
HRD Department
#73 Ermin Garcia St., Cubao, Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 727-5293 local 101 or 721-0731 / 411-7310
(look for Ms. Aloha R. Salamida)

FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY

Nicanor Reyes Street, Sampaloc, Manila
www.feu.edu.ph

Announces openings for the following positions:

Programmers

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4-year Computer course
- programming skills in VB/ASP or PHP
- knowledge in SQL Server or Oracle Database
- must have at least 2 years related experience
- male, 24 to 28 years old
- good command of the English language
- excellent health

Assistant Network Administrator

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4-year Computer course
- administer (Windows 2000, Linux, Hub Switches, HP-UX and Networking)
- knowledge in CISCO Network and familiar with hardwares
- must have at least 2 years related experience
- male, 24 to 28 years old
- good command of the English language
- excellent health

LAN Application/DB Support

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4-year Computer course
- administer (Windows 2000, Linux, Hub Switches, HP-UX and Networking)
- knowledge in Visual Basic, ORACLE, POST GRES, MS SQL 2000
- must have at least 1 year related experience
- male, 24 to 28 years old
- good command of the English language
- excellent health

Technical Support Staff

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4-year Computer course
- familiar with Hardware and Software troubleshooting
- must have at least 1 year related experience
- male, 24 to 28 years old
- good command of the English language
- excellent health

Please send letter of application, resume, copies of transcript of records, diploma, other credentials and photo to:

The Personnel Manager
jcnicer@yahoo.com
Telefax: 735-00-41

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Pilmico Foods Corp. is a member of the Aboitiz group of companies and is one of the major players in the flour industry today. With over four decades of operation, it has built an extensive base of loyal customers nationwide. Together with Pilmico-Mauri Foods Corp., it is one of the most preferred supplier of well trusted flour and bakery ingredients under the brand names of Wooden Spoon, Sun Moon Star, Kutitap, Gold Star, Megastar and Diamond. While the Fil-Am Foods Inc. is one of the most respected feed manufacturing plant and swine farm operator owned by Aboitiz, through Pilmico. All these 3 companies form the Food Group. The Group values people who are hardworking, customer focused, honest and team players. We are looking for more people to join our team as:

Territory Business Manager – North Luzon (Code: TBM-PMFC)

- Male, not less than 25 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With experience on bread making & bakery troubleshooting
- Selling and negotiation skills
- Ability to communicate well, both in written and oral English
- Must possess safe driving skills
- Salary is negotiable

Technical Services Supervisor – Manila based (Code: TSS)

- Female/Male
- Must be a Licensed Chemist/Chemical Engineer/Food Technology or related courses
- With excellent baking technology skills
- Working knowledge of Statistical Process Control
- With at least three (3) years supervisory experience in QC Food Manufacturing
- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral
- Must be proficient in Windows-based program such as Word, Excel, Power Point etc.
- Salary is negotiable

Training and Development Officer – Cebu based (Code: T&D)

- Male/Female
- Graduate of Psychology or any relevant course
- Has background in competency development
- Willing to travel to Iligan and Luzon
- Excellent communication skills; Analytical
- Salary is negotiable

Warehouse Supervisor – Tarlac based (Code: WHS)

- Male
- Graduate of Industrial or Mechanical Engineering
- With at least 3 years supervisory experience in Warehousing functions
- Must possess minimum of three years experience on inventory management and warehouse operation
- Proficient in Windows-based programs such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- Salary is negotiable

Swine Nursery Supervisor – Tarlac based (Code: SNS)

- Male, between 21-40 years old
- Graduate of animal science
- With at least 2 years experience in commercial swine production
- Salary is negotiable

Human Resources Officer – Tarlac based (Code: HRO)

- Male/Female , 25 to 35 years old
- Must be a graduate of BS/BA Psychology or any business courses.
- Must possess three years experience in Human Resources in supervising capacity in a manufacturing firm.
- Proficient in Windows-based program such as Word, Excel and Power Point
- Excellent communication skills
- Salary is negotiable

Nutrition Service and Training Officer – Tarlac based (Code: NSTO)

- Male
- Graduate of Animal Science, preferably with MS Degree in Animal Nutrition
- Must have adequate knowledge and experience in feed formulation, development and conduct of training modules on Nutrition and Data collection and analysis through farm trials
- Has good communication skills both oral and written (English)
- Salary is negotiable

Business Process Engineer – Tarlac based (Code: BPE)

- Male/Female, not more than 30 yrs. old
- Must be a graduate of BS Industrial Engineering or any related course
- Preferably with Masters degree in Business Management or Engineering or has undertaken masteral units
- At least 2 years experience on Macro Systems Analysis & Design and its actual system roll-out and project management
- Preferably exposed to ISO Project Implementation
- Can communicate well, both in written and oral English
- Computer literate
- Salary is negotiable

Territory Business Manager (2) for Dumaguete & Bukidnon (Code: TBM-FFI)

- Male/Female, between 26-30 years old
- Graduate of Animal Science or Veterinary Medicine
- At least 2 years selling experience in consumer goods preferably animal feeds or related products
- Possess selling, negotiation and safe driving skills
- Has good communication skills both oral and written (English)
- Salary is negotiable

Accounting Clerk – Tarlac based (Code: ACC)

- Male, between 20 to 27 years old
- Must be a graduate Accounting Course, preferably CPA.
- Proficient in Windows-based program such as Word, Excel and Power Point
- Applicant muss possess driving skills
- Excellent communication skills

Pigchamp Analyst – Tarlac based (Code: PA)

- Male/Female, between 21-30 years old
- Graduate of any 4 year course
- Preferably with 1 year experience in encoding jobs
- Proficient in windows application especially excel program
- Must be keen to details

* PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY

We recognize your need to grow professionally and personally. We will support your training requirement and equip you with the necessary skills that will enable you to assume expanded roles.

Submit application and resume papers (with the CODES indicated at the envelope or at the email subject area) to:

For Cebu Applicants
HR OFFICER
Pilmico Foods Corporation
Manuel A. Cuenco Avenue
Banilad, Cebu City

For Mindanao Applicants
HR OFFICER
Pilmico Foods Corp.
Kiwalan Cove
Iligan City

For NCR Applicants
ADMINISTRATOR
Pilmico-Mauri Foods
110 Legaspi Bldg., 110
Legaspi St.,Legaspi Village, Capas,Tarlac

For Tarlac Applicants
HR OFFICER
Fil-Am Foods Inc
Sto.Domingo II,
Makati City

Or send it thru email to: Glabucana@pilmico.com

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FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY

Institute of Arts and Sciences
Nicanor Reyes Street,Sampaloc, Manila
www.feu.edu.ph

Second Semester, S.Y. 2004 - 2005

The Institute of Arts and Sciences is in need of Teachers to handle courses in:

HUMANITIES

LITERATURE

PSYCHOLOGY

ECONOMICS

POLITICAL SCIENCE (RESEARCH)

Preferred Qualifications:

with Master's degree
s/he must have teaching experience
s/he must be fluent in English
s/he must possess a pleasing personality
s/he must have commitment, moral integrity, and a strong work ethic
s/he must not be above 50 years of age

Send application, resume,with 2x2 picture and transcript of records to:

Dean Jaime An Lim, *Institute of Arts & Sciences*
janlim@feu.edu.ph
For more information, please visit us at:

FEU-Institute of Arts &Sciences
Nicanor Reyes Street, Sampaloc, Manila
Telefax: 735-0038

FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY

Nicanor Reyes Street, Sampaloc, Manila
www.feu.edu.ph

Announces openings for the following positions:

Academic Laboratory Technician

Qualifications:

- graduate of BS Computer Science or BS Information Technology or BS Math Major in IT
- knowledgeable in computer troubleshooting
- knowledge in MS Office and Macromedia Software
- good English communication skills
- excellent health

Office Clerk

Qualifications:

- college graduate
- good command of the English language
- knowledge in MS Office
- excellent health

Audit Clerks

Qualifications:

- BS Accountancy graduate
- good command of the Enlgish language
- knowledge in MS Office
- excellent health

Please send letter of application, resumé, copies of transcript of records, diploma, other credentials and photo to:

The Personnel Manager
jcnicer@yahoo.com
Telephone Number: 735-00-41

MSA

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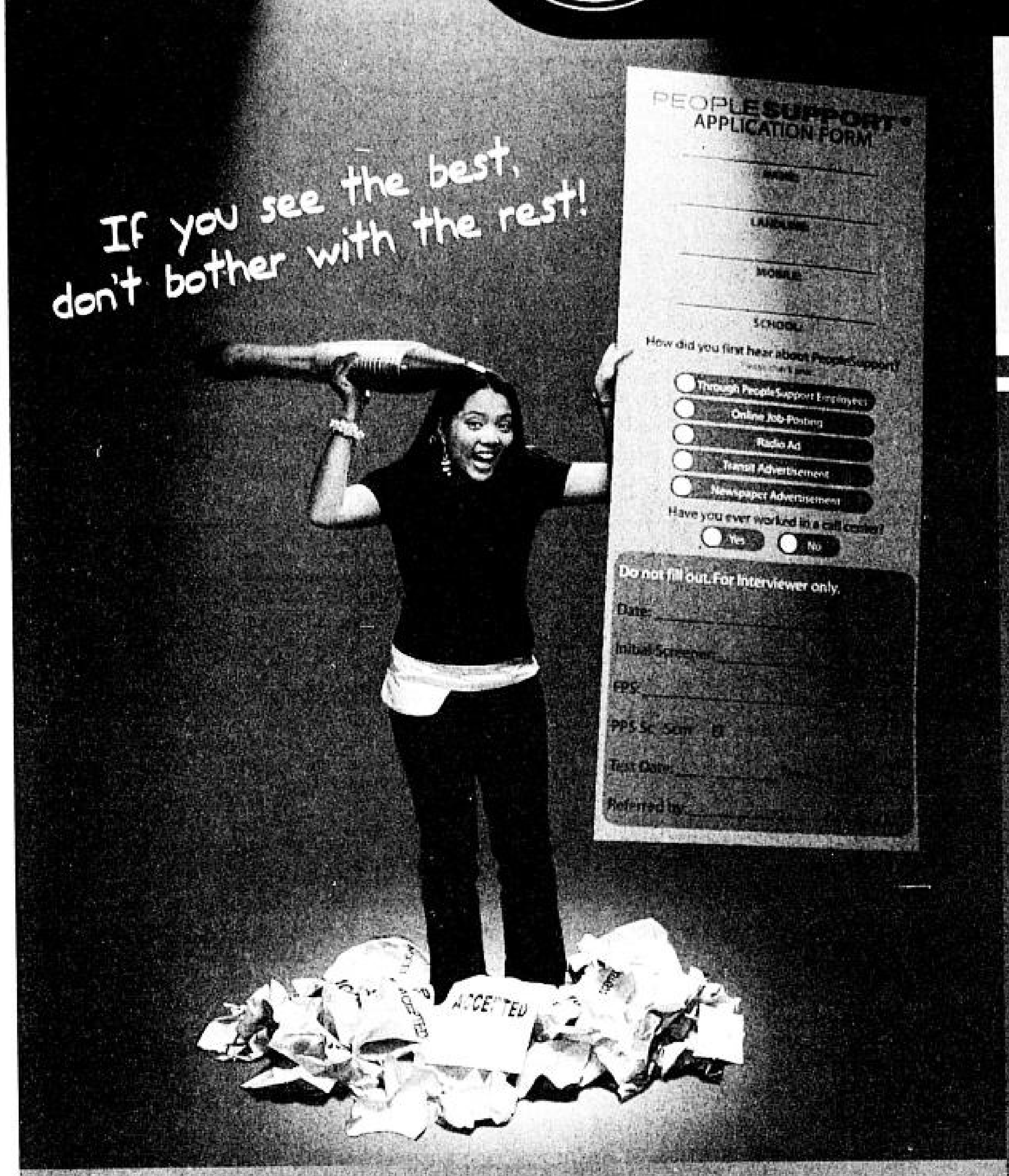
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Accounting Assistant

The position undertakes a range of clearly defined and circumscribed accounting duties: carries out administrative functions as required; maintains and updates accounting records; maintains accounting/ internal controls; prepares accounting and other reports; and contributes towards preparing financial statements.

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to the Financial Control Specialist, Financial Reporting and Analysis Section (CTAC-FRA), Controller's Department (CTL).

Description of Responsibilities

- contributing in the preparation of financial statements, accounting and other reports, as required, under the supervision of a senior support staff; assisting in ensuring that accounting reports are prepared in accordance with applicable generally accepted accounting principles;
- reviewing and identifying computer requirements for effective and efficient operation; ensuring the accuracy and reliability of systems; initiating changes to existing systems and coordinating the needs of the work area with the IT department through the coordinating officer in charge;
- maintaining and ensuring appropriate, adequate and timely controls in the preparation of accounting data, processing of transactions and in preparation of reports; recommending changes and improvements as required to ensure correct, complete and timely accounting;
- reconciling various general ledger accounts and analyzing and investigating discrepancies for review by supervising staff;
- processing transactions through preparing appropriate accounting journal entries/ vouchers and compiling relevant supporting documents; reviewing and verifying the accuracy, consistency and propriety of supporting documents for all claims, payments and other accounting transactions in compliance with accounting practices, established procedures and guidelines;
- coordinating, obtaining, and providing required information in accordance with established procedures in a tactful manner; and
- performing any other assignments as required, including secretarial support and the preparation of draft memoranda and external correspondence for supervisors' review.

Selection Criteria

- suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned at the required level;
- a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, major in Accounting; a CPA designation;
- at least three years accounting experience in a computerized environment of a large organization, preferably in financial or banking sector;
- detailed understanding of the relevant procedures and guidelines and their importance in the overall function of the work area;
- good understanding of relevant accounting policies, practices and systems, as well as general policies, procedures, guidelines and reporting requirements prevalent in large multi-national institutions;
- good understanding of the business process work flows of related areas and the interaction among them;
- good knowledge of an integrated Accounting system, such as Oracle Applications, and its interfaces with the other systems and work areas;
- good understanding of basic general accounting concepts and principles, and the application thereof;
- proficiency with computer software in common use at large institutions and specialized Accounting related software;
- proficiency in the use of computer data bases to input and extract information, and to generate reports;
- excellent oral and written communication skills in English;
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Human Resources Division,
Asian Development Bank
P.O. Box 789,0980 Manila Philippines

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

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- male, at least college level

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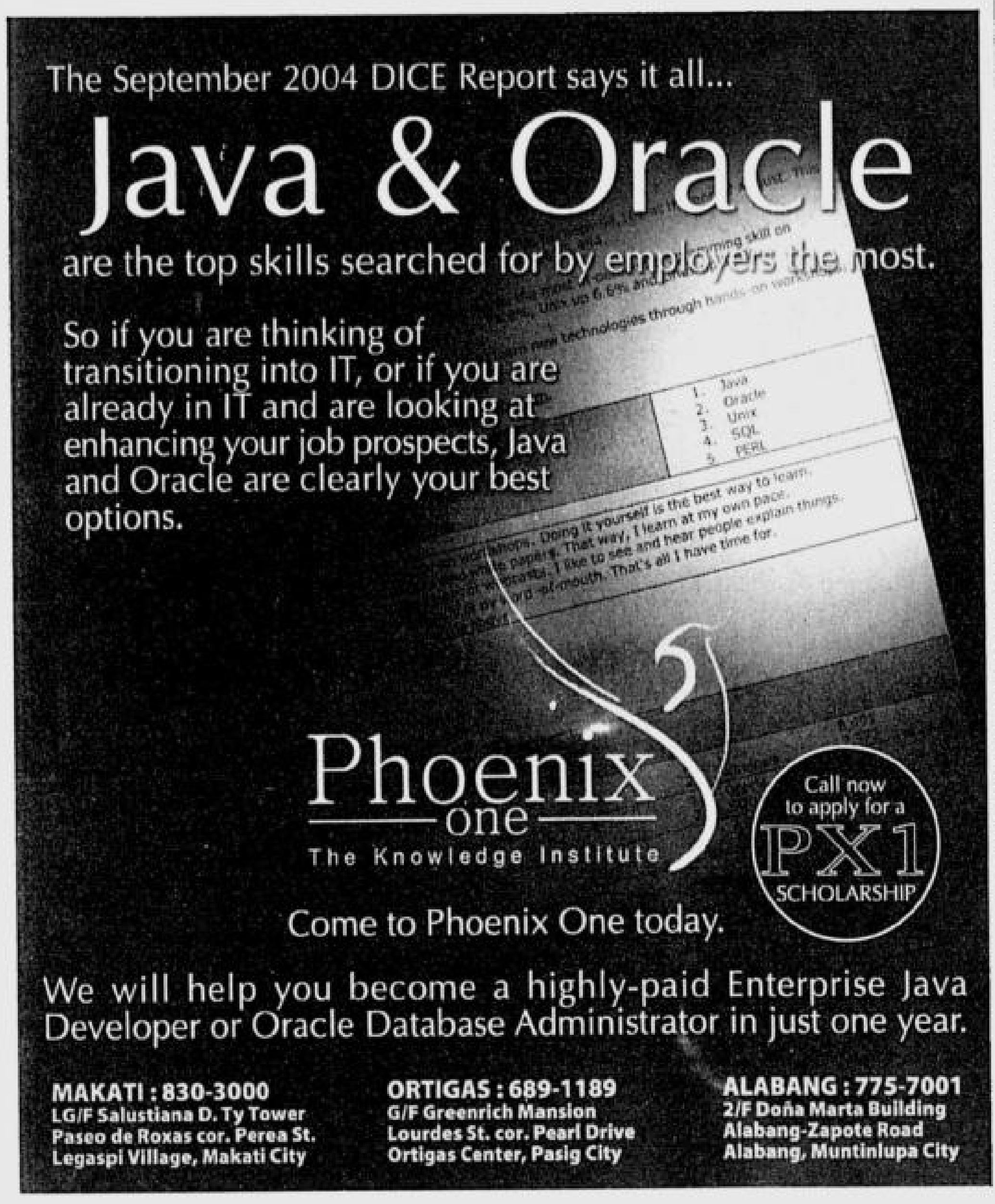
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- Responsible for drug safety surveillance operations, staffing and budget;
- Lead the development and implementation of standard operating procedures/policies for drug safety surveillance and vigilance;
- Act as the primary interface with internal and external customers regarding safety operations and queries.

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- Registered Pharmacist or Nurse;
- At least 2 years experience supervising and managing medical and regulatory affairs section of a pharmaceutical company;
- Preferably with 5 years people and budget management experience;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, able to work with people from various disciplines.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their updated resumes detailing work experiences to:
Human Resources Dept - Recruitment (Code:HSP) ABBOTT Laboratories, 102 EDSA, Mandaluyong City
E-mail: teresita.bernardo@abbott.com or visit: **www.abbottrecruitment.com.ph**

Only short listed candidates shall be scheduled for interview. Previous applicants need not apply. Applications will be treated with strict confidentiality.

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- Female/male, 24-33 years old
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- Organized, result oriented, computer literate
- Has at least 3 years experience in office work.

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TECH'L SUPPORT:

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Sr. Fire & Safety Technician
Biomedical Engineer
Quality Improvement Technician

ALLIED:

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CSSD Technician

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Provide 4 pcs. 2 x 2 colored picture in white background, one (1) long brown envelope and 3.5 floppy disk. Get a sample copy of a Prescribed Resume in our office. Submit the following documents photocopied in long-sized bond paper:

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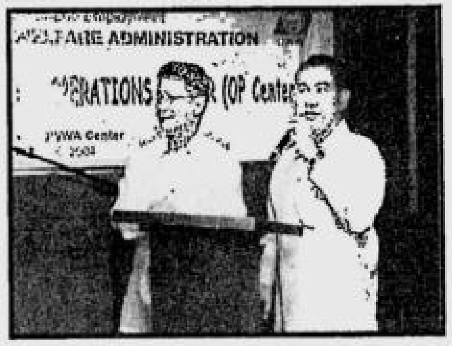

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OWWA Website......www.owwa.gov.ph
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Overseas Workers Welfare Administration
7th St. Cor F. B. Harrison St., Pasay City

CLIENTLOGIC

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- graduate of any 4-yr course, preferrably IT-related
- technically proficient in PC architecture, Operations System, the Internet & Desk Top applications
- excellent oral & written communication skills

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* CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (w/ financial background)
* QUALITY ANALYST
* TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR
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- Preparing audit plans, audit programs and comprehensive audit report ;
- Providing assurance that operations are conducted in accordance with acceptable business practices;
- Assisting members of the organization by providing analysis, counsel & recommendations concerning activities reviewed;
- Documenting and recommending changes in Policy and procedures when necessary;

JOB MUST:
- Top 10% Graduate of UP, La Salle or UE & must be CPA, MBA or CFA an advantage.
- Minimum 3 years working experience w/ the Top 4 audit firms or minimum 3 years of Internal Audit experience.
- Having worked in the same capacity in a call center environment, a definite plus.
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- Preferably with a strong and assertive personality.

CREDIT AND COLLECTION OFFICER (CCO)

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS:
- Maintain Accounts Receivable, general and subsidiary records
- Prepare aging and other analyses for management
- Establish and maintain credit evaluation system
- Ensure adherence to credit and collection policies
- Prepare and transmit Statement of Accounts to clients
- Coordinate with internal Client Services Department for follow-up with clients

JOB MUST:
- Accounting or Business Graduate
- At least 5 years experience in credit and collection, internal or external audit, with at least 2 years supervisory experience.
- Above average communication skills (written and oral)
- Detail-oriented and pro-active
- Experience in both manual and automated financial systems is a plus

GOVERNANCE OFFICER / FINANCIAL ANALYST

JOB FUNCTIONS:
- Governance – Assist the CFO and the Excom in ensuring that the group's governance documents are complete and up-to-date in every respect.
- Financial Analyst – Prepare, under the direction of the CFO and/or CEO, regular financial reports as well as special reports and projects that may be required by senior management, Excom or the Board.
- Investor Relations – Coordinate Excom and Board meetings; liaise with the representatives or key persons of current and prospective investors groups; manage requests for information from all external parties.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:
- Preferably a CPA or business graduate.
- At least three (3) years immediate work experience either as Financial Analyst, Bank Lending Officer / Investment Banking Associate, Corporate Governance Staff or Auditor (Internal or External).

You can also email us at jobs@globalstride.com.
29Th Floor IBM Plaza Building, Eastwood City Cyberpark Libis, Quezon City 1100; Tel. 911-8866 / Fax. 911-8854.

A well-established **International Engineering Consulting Firm** is in **IMMEDIATE** need of the following:

Road and Transport Sector:
- Project Managers
- Resident Engineers
- Senior Highway Engineers
- Bridge Engineers
- Materials Engineers
- Structural Engineers
- Foundation/Geotechnical Engineers
- GIS Specialists
- Transport Economist
- Airport Planners
- Port Planners
- Mechanical Engineers
- Electrical Engineers
- Cost Engineers
- Transport Planners
- Tunnel Engineers
- Traffic Engineers
- Geotechnical Engineers
- Geodetic Engineers

Agriculture and Social Sector:
- Project Managers
- Irrigation Engineers
- Agricultural Engineers
- Agricultural Economists
- Social Development/ Resettlement Specialists
- Urban and Regional Planners
- Architects
- Financial Analysts/Economists
- Project Benefit Monitoring & Evaluation Specialists
- Legal Experts
- Information and Education Campaign Specialists
- Community Development Specialists
- Extension, Marketing and Training Specialists

Water and Environment Sector:
- Project Managers
- Water Supply Engineers
- Wastewater Engineers
- Hydrologists
- Dam Engineers
- Hydropower Engineers
- Electro-Mechanical Engineers
- Welding Specialists
- Environmental Specialists
- EGHAR Specialists
- Process Engineers
- Geologists
- Geotechnical Engineers
- Geodetic Engineers
- Drainage Engineers
- Flood Control Engineers
- Watershed Management Specialists
- Sabo Engineers
- Landfill Specialists
- Solid Waste Management Specialists
- Groundwater Engineers
- Air Quality and Noise Specialists

Information Technology Sector:
- Project Managers
- Programmers
- Database Specialists
- Web Developers
- IT Document Specialists
- Systems Analysts
- Systems Integrators/Developers
- Network Specialists
- GIS Specialists

Qualifications:
- ☐ Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree but preference would be on those with Master's Degree, Post Graduate Diploma and Doctoral Degrees;
- ☐ Preferably ten (10) years professional experience in related fields;
- ☐ At least five (5) years experience in internationally funded-projects (e.g. ADB, EU, IBRD/ World Bank, JICA, JBIC, IsDB)
- ☐ Assigned/handled international project assignments (e.g. Asia, Europe, Africa)
- ☐ Must be willing to travel and undertake multiple project assignments abroad.

Interested applicants must send detailed curriculum vitae, stating contact details (e-mails, mobile/phone numbers), qualifications, years of experience, complete employment history (project name, duration of project, duties and responsibilities), languages, references and time of availability for interview.

All application should be sent to P.O. BOX #703, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City, 1135 Philippines or e-mail at businessdevdept@yahoo.com

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ASST/BRANCH COORDINATORS
- preferably residing near Megamall, Binondo, Alabang and Robinsons Galleria areas
- customer service oriented, with admin work experience
- female, with very pleasing personality at least 21 years old
- excellent communications, interpersonal and coordinating skills

HR/RECRUITMENT ASST
- must be psychology graduate
- with at least 6 months experience in HR or Recruitment
- articulate, with good interviewing skills

MARKETING ASST
- must be marketing graduate or related course and with at least 2 years experience in sales and marketing
- background in conceptualizing and implementing marketing plans, training and programs, an advantage
- personable, excellent in written and spoken English

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/WRITER
- at least 2 years managerial/supervisory experience
- excellent in planning, organizational, analytical and decision-making skills
- capable of developing business and project plans
- graduate of business, management or marketing course
- responsible in writing press release, articles, manuals, documents, plans and marketing materials

SECRETARY
- at least 1 year related working experience
- highly organized with good coordinating skills

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER
- can teach any of the following:
  - French, Spanish, Italian, German, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese or Korean
- with formal teaching experience

Other Positions:
- Part/Full time Tutors • English Language Teachers • Lay-out Artists
- Preschool Teachers • Test Developers

Due to the urgent need for the position, applicants are requested to apply personally and bring their comprehensive resumés with passport size picture to HR Department 149 B. Gonzales St., Loyola Heights, QC between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or send resumés to any of AHEAD branches

MAIN
2/F FBR Bldg. 317
Katipunan Ave., Loyola Hgts., QC

GREENHILLS
2/F Providence Bldg
55 Annapolis St., Greenhills

SM MEGAMALL
5/F Bldg B Mandaluyong
(in front of Megatrade Hall 1)

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We are a leader in delivering high performance solid-state drive and storage management solutions to the military, industrial, enterprise and consumer markets worldwide. We seek highly qualified professionals to fill in the following positions for our International Headquarters in Manila.

ASIC DESIGN ENGINEER

The ASIC Design Engineer shall contribute to the design architecture/specification for next generation storage networking products. He/she shall design and implement RTL from specifications; implement random, self checking verification testbenches using Vera; write automated DC and Primetime scripts using DCSH or TCL and analyze results.

- BS ECE, EE, CoE. Graduate degrees are a definite advantage.
- Must have 5 years experience using Verilog and front-end ASIC Design.
- Previous design experience in design or verification of high performance packet-based communication or storage networking systems.
- ASIC/FPGA project management experience is a plus
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT ENGINEER

The Customer Support Engineer will interface with customers to provide pre- and post-sales technical support. The CSE shall act as the first level of technical interaction for the sales team. The CSE shall also document calls and monitor resolution status and assist in troubleshooting storage products, write user manuals, and other technical material. The CSE shall interface with the R&D, Sales and Marketing teams from international office and headquarters on a regular basis.

- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering, Computer Science or equivalent combination of education and experience. Experience as a Technical Support Representative in a call center environment is a plus.
- General storage interface knowledge: SCSI drives, IDE and Fibre Channel
- Experience with Linux, UNIX and Windows operating systems, including Windows 98, NT, 2000 and XP.
- Must have strong communication and inter-personal skills, high customer and quality orientation. Must be able to work with minimal supervision.
- Proficiency in MS Office and Adobe Acrobat and/or FrameMaker.

Qualified candidates may send their comprehensive resumés to bntech@pldtdsl.net immediately. We regret that only short-listed candidates will be notified.

ICE CREAM DEALERS

We are a manufacturer of a very popular brand of ice cream. We are looking for dealers and distributors for certain sales territories or marketing zones in Metro Manila, provincial Luzon, and certain areas in Visayas and Mindanao. Dealerships can be extremely profitable for those who can get attractive locations and can give supervision of retail outlets in the sales territories. A dealer can make P6K (or more!) a month on a capital investment of P40K per outlet with a modest sales volume per month. To be selected, you have to apply for dealership(s) in the available sales territories of your choice by sending a letter of intent and a short resumé with 2x2 picture to email **mikhailo268@yahoo.com** or fax numbers **817-9665** or **848-1179**, Address to: **ICE CREAM MANUFACTURER.**

Parties who are interested to the dealers must possess the following qualifications: (1) Relevant business experience in trading and distribution of consumer products. If no relevant business background, the dealer applicant must justify why he/she thinks is capable of handling an area dealershi e.g. familiarity of locality or existing contracts with popular retaili outlets in the area; (2) Initial capital of P20K-P40K per retail outlet for acquisition of freezer(s); (3) Favorable character references and bank checkings; and (4) In areas outside of Metro Manila, access to but not ownership of cold storage facility may be necessary. If you are interested and belive you can meet our requirements, send your Letter of Intent now with the required information and specific market areas of interest (except major malls as they are already taken). We will respond to you if the territories are still available and we believe that you have the qualifications to meet our dealership criteria.

OFF-SHORE JOB

Q.C. INSPECTOR

- Preferably Filipino/Chinese Male or Female between 25-35 years old
- Must be fluent in Mandarin & English
- At least 2 years experience in Garment Industry
- Has an existing passport

Please send resumé via fax or email at:

fax no: 8943616
email: lancerol@pldtdsl.net

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for Bank for the Poor Project

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Rustan Marketing Corporation

Is in urgent need of top caliber individuals

GROUP PRODUCT MANAGER

- Female; between 30-40 years old
- Degree in Business, preferably Marketing or Economics, an MBA degree or units is an advantage
- Minimum of three (3) years solid experience in brand management and development of consumer products in a managerial capacity
- Must possess strong leadership qualities
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

SALES MANAGER FOR HOME CARE

- Preferably female; between 26-35 years old
- Graduate of a four-year business related course
- Minimum of three (3) years managerial experience in a direct/retail selling environment
- Preferably with experience in distributing consumer products
- Creative and with excellent communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing, aggressive and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate
- Willing to travel

BRAND MANAGER

- Female; between 26-35 years old
- Degree in Business, preferably Marketing or Economics
- Minimum of two (2) years experience in product management and development of consumer products in a managerial capacity
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND OR E-MAIL IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

Rustan Marketing Corporation
HRMD c/o Executive Administration
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

Save the Children®

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries, including the United States, and serving more than 15 million children and their families, implementing community development projects that create lasting, positive change in the lives of disadvantaged children and adolescents. Save the Children is currently searching for qualified candidates for the following vacancies in the **ASCEND Mindanao Project.**

ASCEND Mindanao (Assistance for the Comprehensive Educational Development of Mindanao) is a two-year USAID-funded project that seeks to increase access to quality basic and non-formal education among children and youth in school-less and conflict-affected areas of Mindanao.

EDUCATION COORDINATORS

Sulu, Maguindanao, North Cotabato, Zamboanga del Sur

Duties & Responsibilities

Reporting to the Project Director, shall oversee, coordinate or facilitate the implementation of plans, programs, strategies, or activities; lead in community mobilization efforts; lead in the delivery of capacity building activities; assist in the delivery of technical assistance, curriculum strengthening and teacher training to partner public schools or *madaris*; lead in awareness raising, networking and advocacy initiatives at the local government level; lead in monitoring of and reporting on project deliverables and the impact of project assistance; work closely with the Department of Education and the Mindanao Business Council and coordinate with other NGOs or government agencies supporting related programs.

Qualification Requirements

- degree in social science, education or community development
- knowledge of the area of operation
- experience in implementing basic education projects related to *madrasah* education, public elementary education improvement, teacher training, and/or non-formal education, accreditation & equivalency implementation
- skills in advocacy, networking, capacity building, community organizing and mobilization
- experience in working with the public school system, Muslim communities and religious leaders, LGUs, civil society groups and the academe;
- computer literacy (MS Office software)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE OFFICER

Cotabato City

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to the Project Director and the Finance Manager, shall be responsible for the administrative and financial functions of the project and ensure that they are efficiently implemented in accordance with prescribed policies and procedures; conduct periodic financial monitoring of grant releases and ensure that all financial requirements are complied with by sub-grant partners.

Qualification Requirements

- accounting graduate, preferably a CPA and/or with supervisory experience
- computer literate, proficient in Excel

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE ASSISTANT

Cotabato City

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to the Administrative and Finance Officer, shall assist in all administrative and financial functions of the project.

Qualification Requirements

- accounting graduate
- computer literate, proficient in Excel

Attractive compensation and benefits package awaits the successful applicants. Interested parties may submit their resumes on or before October 25, 2004 to: *Thru mail* - Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *Thru fax:* (632) 853-02-15. *Thru e-mail:* allaneza@savechildren.org Please indicate code in subject line: "EDCOORD-ASCEND" for Education Coordinators, "AFO-ASCEND" for Administrative & Finance Officer & "AFA-ASCEND" for Administrative & Finance Assistant.

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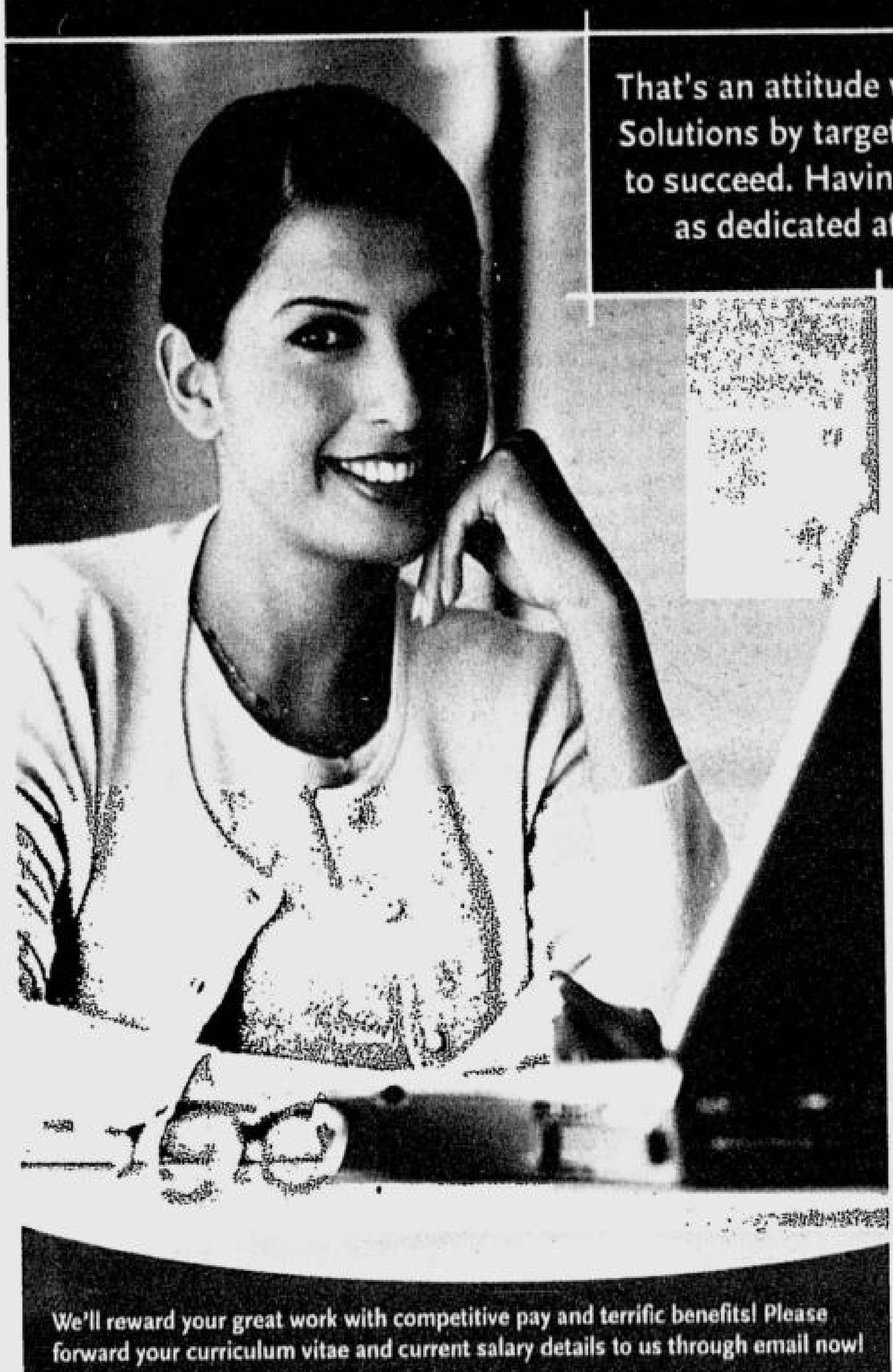

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SITE DIRECTOR
> *OPSjobs_ph@teletech.com*

- Exceptional communication skills
- Ability to manage both external and internal clients
- Outstanding project management capabilities
- Proven experience working with a variety of clients
- Self-driven, with strong attention to details
- Minimum 5 year Client Relationship experience
- Charismatic and dynamic leader
- At least 5 years broad-based business experience or Senior Management Level experience in the service sector
- Excellent organizational skills and able to manage multiple and changing priorities
- Sound financial planning skills a MUST

OPERATIONS MANAGER
> *OPSjobs_ph@teletech.com*

- Minimum 5 years leadership experience within a service driven corporation
- Relevant tertiary qualifications or equivalent (ie relevant diploma plus experience)
- Shift management capabilities such as: Erlang C staffing, calculation administration, problem resolution, time management, call routing schematic administration, multi-tasking and delegation skills

SENIOR TRAINING AND QUALITY MANAGER
> *QA_jobs_ph@teletech.com*

- College degree holder
- With at least 5 years experience in training and quality management
- Has comprehensive knowledge of quality assurance practices and processes
- Proven ability to facilitate the training cycle (assessement, development, facilitation and analysis)
- Has a background on the following areas: Six Sigma, ISO, COPC or a similar discipline
- Minimum 3 years experience in a customer service environment, preferably in a teleservices or telecommunications company
- Can work well with others at all levels of the organization and represent the company in a professional manner
- Able to work in a 24x7 call center
- May be required to travel

TEAM LEADERS
> *OPSjobs_ph@teletech.com*

- Minimum 2 years leadership experience within a service driven or high tech corporation
- Minimum 1 year experience in call center management role
- Call center management certification
- eWFM rostering and staffing experience

ACCENT AND CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH TRAINERS
> *trainerjobs_ph@teletech.com*

- Must have lived/worked in the US
- Previous experience/training in any of the following: Accent Reduction, English/Grammar teaching, Broadcasting, Public Speaking, Speech Therapy and Voice Coaching

ACCOUNT MANAGER
> *CRMjobs_ph@teletech.com*

- Minimum 2 to 3 years experience in professional organization management
- Minimum 2 to years experience in account coordination/management in a services industry

PRODUCT TRAINER
> *trainerjobs_ph@teletech.com*

- Worked in a call center environment
- Comprehensive understanding of a call center environment
- Previous training or presentation experience or Train the Trainer certification or equivalent desirable

H.R. GENERALIST
> *hrjobs_ph@teletech.com*

- Working knowledge of Labor laws, SSS, Philhealth, HDMF, BIR Tax Tables, and other relevant rules and regulations
- Preferably with a degree or masters in HR or equivalent experience

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COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

- With salary of P100,000 – P150,000 per annum
- Must be knowledgeable in Networking
- Willing to be trained
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Must know how to drive a car or motorcycle
- Fresh graduates are welcome

OUTBOUND SALES AGENTS

- With salary of P120,000 – P200,000 per annum
- Must have excellent Tagalog-English (Taglish) conversational skills
- Must have completed at least 2nd year college
- 18 to 27 years old, with outgoing personality
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge
- Internet savvy

ACCOUNTANT

- With salary of P91,000 – P200,000 per annum
- Must be an accounting graduate and must have at least one year experience in the same field
- Female, 21 to 27 years old, must be a self-starter
- Basic computer knowledge
- Knowledge in Quicken or Quickbooks an advantage
- Must have strong organizational skills with emphasis on accuracy

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Lapanday center, 2263 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
Taking the MRT, get off at Magallanes Station and go towards Mantrade (5th bldg. from EDSA)
or SEND your resumes with ID picture to: hrmakati@yahoo.com or MAIL TO: P.O. Box 892 Dasmariñas Village, Makati

GLOBAL 9, INC.

Sportshouse is in need of a team of dynamic individuals for the following positions:

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Female : at least 5'3" and College Graduate (preferably with experience)

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Female : at least 5'3" and 3rd year college level

Cashier
Female : at least 5'3" and 3rd year college level

Please send your resumé with 2x2 picture at:

Sportshouse Training Department
c/o LINO's Restaurant 3rd Floor Ali Mall
Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City

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- Proficiency in oral and written communication
- Preferably with sales experience but not necessary
- Hardworking, self-motivated and willing to travel
- Good Moral Character

With basic salary, transportation allowance, incentives and commissions.
Due to the urgency of our requirement qualified applicants were advised to hand carry their resumé at:

2F/2nd Floor A&M Building
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City (near St. Peter Parish Church)
blisters@pacific.net.ph

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Tel. 6370.650

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Build a promising career with a leading IT company focused on applications development. Bizbox Inc. is in need of highly skilled professionals to fill up the following positions.

Account Executives

- Must be aggressive, flexible and willing to travel
- Must have excellent communication and presentation skills
- Male or female between 20 to 28 years old
- College graduate
- Highly presentable and with pleasing personality

Accountants

- Must have at least 2 years work experience
- Knowledgeable of any accounting software
- Male or female between 23 to 28 years old
- Able to do training and willing to travel
- College graduate with a degree in accounting

Web Developers / Designers

- Must be highly skilled in C#, ADO.Net & ASP.Net
- Must have 2 years of work experience
- Male or female between 22 to 28 years old
- Knowledgeable in Photoshop, Fireworks or Dreamweaver
- College graduate of any IT related course

These are urgent requirements. Interested candidates should send their resumes to:

Email add: hrd@bizboxms.com or
Office add: 9631 Kamagong St., Makati City
Tel. No : 899.3959

Syndicated Architects

JOB HIRING

Syndicated Architects Co., a highly diversified design firm engaged in rendering Architectural and Interior Design services is URGENTLY in need of dynamic and creative professionals to occupy the following position:

CAD Operators – 2

- Graduate of B.S. Architecture
- Minimum experience of 3 years in architectural detailing and drafting in an Architectural Firm
- Basic knowledge in Local and International Architectural and Building Standards and Codes
- Proficiency in AutoCAD and Architectural Desktop is a must (new graduates of CAD schools may be entertained but must take proficiency tests)
- Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, and other rendering programs is an advantage

Interested applicants may personally report from 11am to 4pm, Mondays to Fridays with resumé and 2 x 2 ID picture to:

Senior Partner – Finance and Admin
3/F One Marian Centre, 106 Esteban St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
T (632) 750-5206

JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004
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26th Floor, Cyber One Bldg.
No. 11 Eastwood Avenue,
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Walk-in Screening Time (ask for Trish):
8:00 am – 10:00 am
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Email: trish.villena@sitel.com
Recruitment Hotline: 688-2404
www.sitel.com

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CRS **CRS is in need of highly qualified individuals for contractual positions for its Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (Agri/NRM) Program. CRS is an equal opportunity employer.**

The persons we are looking for are to be based in Mindanao and should have experience in participatory community development and expertise in one of the following areas: Agronomy, Forestry, Agroforestry, Animal Husbandry, Aquaculture, Gender, Land-Use Planning, Agricultural Engineering, or other related fields. They should also have experience and ability in training, extension, and implementing field-level agricultural development programs. Emphasis on community organizing and project proposal development is preferred. Willing and able to travel extensively in remote areas in Mindanao and relate with Catholic and Muslim religious leaders, indigenous people leaders, government officials, people's organizations, and NGO leaders. Proficiency in MS Word and Excel a must.

AGRICULTURE PROJECT COORDINATORS (5)

☐ Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, Agroforestry, or related field and experience in Sustainable Agriculture.
☐ At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies in planning or implementation of rural development projects.
☐ Background in upland agriculture or natural resource development in Mindanao.

MARKETING PROJECT COORDINATORS (3)

☐ Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics, Marketing, Business related courses, or related field and experience in agricultural trading and financing.
☐ At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies in planning or implementation of rural development projects.
☐ Background in agriculture cooperative movements in Mindanao.

INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERS (2)

☐ Graduate of a related Engineering course. Background in actual design and construction of agricultural infrastructure projects.
☐ At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies in planning or implementation of rural development projects.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITATOR

☐ Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry, Agroforestry or related field and experiences in community based natural resource management program and projects.
☐ At least five years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies in planning or implementation of rural development projects.
☐ Background in Social Forestry, Community-Based Forest Management in Mindanao and with some background in watershed "catchment" management.

FINANCE ASSISTANT

☐ Degree in Accounting, Business Administration, or allied courses. CPA a plus. Proficient in bookkeeping and financial accounting.
☐ At least two years of related work experience. Proficiency in computer skills, including MS Word, Power Point, and Excel.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

☐ Degree in Management, Accounting, Communications, or allied courses. Proficient in all aspects of secretarial and administrative functions.
☐ At least two years of related work experience. Proficiency in MS Word, Power Point, and Excel.

Interested individuals must submit an application letter, comprehensive resume with personal references via email or postal system to:
crsmro@crs-mindanao.org.ph
CRS Agri/NRM Program
No. 2 North Street, DBP Village, Ma-a, 8000 Davao City

Screening of applications to start on **October 22, 2004.** Deadline for applications is **October 31, 2004.**

(Only short listed candidates will be notified)

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- **You must be at least 18 years old and above;**
- **College graduate or undergrads;**
- **No experience needed/required;**
- **Presently employed/Unemployed welcome;**
- ***MUST* be willing to be trained and learn.**
- **Ex-OFW/OCW and students welcome!**

If you want to earn at least
P3,000up weekly
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Room 302, Sunrise Condominium, Ortigas Avenue,
Greenhills, San Juan (near Diamond Motors)

Orientation Schedule every hour, Mon. to Sat., 9am to 9pm
Please confirm your schedule to our Business Partners:
Brendon Gallardo 0917-7499447 / Jay Bejuco 09279645771

BEAUTY CENTER SALON REQUIRES IMMEDIATELY:

1. Executive Secretary fluent in English
2. European Style Hair Dresser (Qualified Manicure, Pedicure Lady)
3. Reflexology and Massager
4. Qualified Nurses
5. All Around Housemaid
6. Receptionist and Waitresses with a Pleasing Personality

DESIGN OFFICE REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY:

1. Architect Interior Designer
2. Structural Engineer for Stainless Steel Cladding
3. Mechanical Draftsman
4. Industrial Kitchen Designer
5. Industrial Stainless Steel Fabrication

To Contact Immediately:

Tel/Fax # (02) 656-6224 or Call 0915-5350543
Look for Ysabel (09202467073) / Vicky (0917 8545127)

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

M/F NOT MORE THAN 30Y/O MUST HAVE GOOD ORAL/WRITTEN COMM SKILLS HARDWORKING PHYSICALLY FIT, RESIDING NEARBY MAKATI WILLING TO BE TRAINED AND WORK LONG HOURS WHEN REQ

CUSTOMER ENGINEER
GRAD OF MECH TECH COURSE

SALES ENGINEERS
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EXPERIENCED IN THE REPAIR OF A/V EQUIPMENT

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APPLY IN PERSON / SEND YOUR RESUME w/ 2" x 2" ID PICTURE
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Legaspi Village, Makati City

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– Field Supervisor
– Promodiser

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Bring resumé & NBI clearance with picture,
w/ or w/o experience. Grad /undergraduate
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Look for Phoebe

NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED

ACCOUNTANT

- M/F not more than 27 years old
- Grad. of BS Accounting
- w/ 2 years experience in bookkeeping, cost/ general acctg.
- Analytical and results oriented

Send your resumé:
I.O.S. Marketing Corporation
647 P. Paterno St., Quiapo, Manila

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL
PHILIPPINES

Biodiversity Analysis, Synthesis & Monitoring Analysis Leader

This position is at a senior level and offers an exciting opportunity to make an impact on Filipino biodiversity conservation. The need for this position has arisen as a result of the recent change in structure of the CI-Philippines program. One of the units created under the new structure is the Biodiversity Analysis, Synthesis & Monitoring Unit under a leader who will be in charge of managing and coordinating staff and all activities on the study analysis of threatened and endemic species in the Philippines. The results of this analysis will represent the quantifiable species, sites and corridor conservation outcomes that will be the basis for all future CI Philippines conservation investments. The unit will also be responsible for building the groundwork for a systematic approach to monitoring that will permit the objective comparative assessment of conservation results. This will facilitate development of a comprehensive, scientifically rigorous system for measuring conservation success that will build donor trust and improve on-the-ground conservation action

Responsibilities:

- Reports to CBC Director
- Support the CBC Director, Corridor Program Managers, and partners in clearly defining three scales of strategic outcomes ("Extinctions Avoided", Areas Protected" and "Corridors Created")for the Philippine CBC, by ensuring appropriate analyses to refine and monitor species, site and corridor outcomes.
- Supervise the compilation of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species for Philippine vertebrates and selected invertebrate and plant groups at global and national levels, in order to redefine "Extinction Avoided" outcomes.
- Support the creation of a unified National Red List Authority under the aegis of the Philippine Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau and the Philippine National Museum that will provide an institutional platform and basis to deliver and monitor Philippine CBC outcome.
- Coordinate the planning and implementation of projects addressing the conservation of selected threatened species.
- Develop and implement partnership mechanisms with key research and academic institution such as museums of natural history (e.g., Philippine National Museum, Chicago Field Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology and Herbaria, National Herbarium of Netherlands), universities, marine research institutions (UP MSI, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, NOAA), species-specific conservation programs (e.g., Tamarraw Conservation Program, Pawikan Conservation Project, Philippine Eagle Foundations, Philippine Raptor Conservation Program), zoological and botanical gardens, etc. which aim to strengthen current specimen/data holdings, improve data retrieval and dissemination of distributional/ecological information for vertebrates and selected invertebrate and plant groups, in order to define "Areas Protected" outcomes and hence integrate a representative database to base future priority analysis of important Biodiversity Areas, new Protected Areas and Corridors.
- Supervise the process for identifying critical knowledge gaps and catalyze targeted RAP fieldwork
- Assist with the creation of new alliances, at national and international levels and coordinate their activities and, as necessary, support with the Philippine CBC, including agreements with Haribon, WWF, UP System, ASEAN organizations, etc., for biodiversity data sharing and dissemination.
- Assist in the construction of a participative process to develop the necessary projects and budgets for the three of strategic outcomes in order to support the fundraising process

Qualifications/skills/characteristics:

- Advance degree (Ph.D., M.S. or equivalent) in Conservation Biology, Biodiversity Analysis, Landscape Ecology, Biogeography or a related field.
- 8-10 years relevant experience in the Philippines, and preferably at least 5 years' experience in program management
- Extensive experience in managing and analyzing biodiversity information.
- Ability to apply technical information, data and analyses to the on-the-ground practice of conservation.
- Training and experience in conservation biology, wildlife management and/or landscape ecology
- Experience in developing species-based conservation strategies and through understanding of the IUCN Red List criteria and process.
- Experience in conducting ecological assessments and field research.
- Working experience of the conservation context in the Philippines, as well as the socioeconomic context as it relates to conservation and policy.
- Demonstrated ability to lead, direct and manage teams as well as to motivate and mentor staff.
- Ability to perform well under pressure and to meet deadlines.
- Flexibility/Adaptability
- Healthy sense of humor.

Interested applicant may submit their application with comprehensive resumé not later than 24 October 2004 to:

The Country Executive Director
Conservation International-Philippines
5 South Lawin, Philam Homes, Quezon City, 1104
or email: aespiniu@conservation.org

(No phone call. Only those short-listed will be notified)

Teaching staff

– Male or Female.
– 21~35yrs old.
– At least college level.
– With pleasing personality.
– Must be fluent user of English.
– With or without experience.

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we offer basic Php 10,000~20,000
(+commision+ benefits...)
Adventages to native English user graduated English major, good experienced

INTERPEOPLE
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INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
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- With 5 years experience or in an Acting Capacity

B. **ADVISER FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS:**
- Can write/speak Korean Language / Part Time / Female

C. **TEACHERS (W/ LICENSE & EXPERIENCE) FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS:**
- Mathematics
- Information Technology (I.T.)
- English as a Second Language

D. **TEACHERS W/ LICENSE & EXPERIENCE) FOR HIGH SCHOOL:**
- GRAMMAR
- LITERATURE
- CHEMISTRY
- PHYSICS
- SOCIAL STUDIES
- ECONOMICS

E. **GUIDANCE COUNSELORS W/ SPED MAJOR OR EXPERIENCE W/ SPED CHILDREN**

F. **SCHOOL LIBRARIAN W/ LICENSE**

G. **SCHOOL SECRETARY**

H. **LIAISON/MARKETING PERSONNEL (FEMALE):**
- Graduate of Marketing/Tourism/HRM
- Willing to do field work
- With or without experience

Submit your resume, transcript & 2x2 picture to:
MONA RIZELLE D. AUSTRIA
Pasig Blvd. Cor Rosemarie Lane Pasig City 1600

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of

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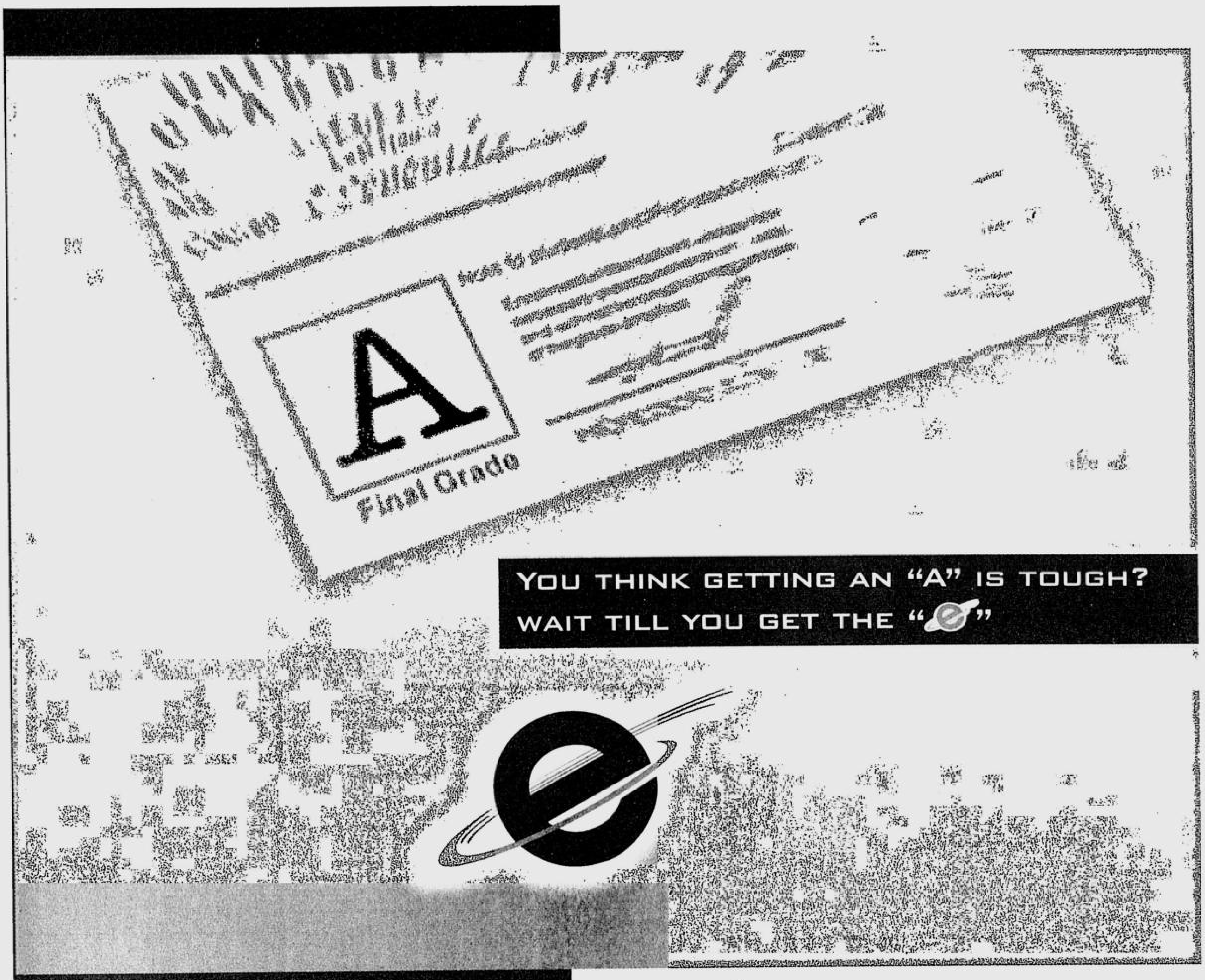
We will provide you with world class training and equip you with the latest in sales technology.

You must have the following qualifications:

- College graduate, customer-oriented, assertive with excellent communication skills
- A 1-year experience in Direct Sales is a plus!
- Preferably with a network of high income level prospects.

Bring your resumé and picture for an interview from October 18-22, 2004, 9:00 AM – 12:00 NN at Suite 1101 Antel Global Corporate Center, #3 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

Income is based on a fixed salary per month, bonuses & incentives depending on actual sales solicited.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Leader and Innovator in Compensation & Benefits
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- Financial Analyst

IT
- Senior Application Developer
- Business Analyst
- Telecoms Specialist
- Data Network Specialist
- Junior Helpdesk Associate

CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCE
- Compensation & Benefits Manager
- Recruiting Specialists

OPERATIONS
- Directors
- Team Leaders
- Quality Assurance Associates
- Technical Support Representatives
- Customer Service Associates
- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Multilingual Representatives

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Executive Assistant to the VP
- Administrative Assistant

CORPORATE FOUNDATION TRAINING
- Sales Trainer

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
- Leadership Recruiting Manager
- Sr. OD Officer (Performance Management & Career Development)
- Leadership Trainers
- OD Associates / Specialists

PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS
- Procurement Assistant for IT

CORPORATE SECURITY OFFICE
- Corporate Security Officer
- Business Continuity Management Officer

CEBU CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

FINANCE
- Finance/Accounting Staff
- Administrative Staff
- Purchasing Officer
- Facilities Officer

HUMAN RESOURCE
- HR Manager
- Recruiting Team Leader
- Recruiting Officers
- Recruiting Specialists
- Payroll Specialist
- C&B Specialist

OPERATIONS
- Shift Managers
- Team Leaders (Sales, Tech Support & Order Fulfillment)
- Technical Support Representatives
- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Order Fulfillment Specialists
- Customer Service Associates
- Quality Assurance Team Leaders
- Quality Assurance Associates

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION
- Corporate Communication Officer
- Corporate Communication Specialist

IT
- IT Manager
- Telecoms Specialist
- Computer System Specialist

ORGANIZATIONAL DEV'T
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- Career Development Officers
- Sr. Behavioral Trainers
- Sr. Leadership Trainers
- OD Associates

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- Speech Trainer

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- Corporate Security Officer
- Business Continuity Management Officer

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  Eastwood City Bagumbayan,
  Quezon City
  Cebu Office: U-308 Keppel Building
  Samar Loop, Cebu City
- **E-mail** your resume to —
  Manila: recruiting@etelecare.com
  Cebu: ceburecruiting@etelecare.com
  or www.etelecare.com
- **Join our Open House —**
  Makati: Oct. 18, 2004
  12/F PBCom Tower, Ayala Ave. Makati City
  10 am-6 pm
  Eastwood: Oct. 22-23, 2004
  20/F CyberOne Building, Eastwood City
  Bagumbayan, Q.C.
  10 am-6 pm

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

MARKETING INFORMATION OFFICER

Qualifications:

- Graduate of 4 year Business course, Management Information Systems or any relevant course
- 2 years marketing experience
- Knowledge in market research, product price, distribution and promotions strategies and its implementation.
- Creative Writing Skills, Ability to analyze the market and ability to organize, leadership skills, Interaction Management Skills & computer skills
- Familiar with database management systems
- Has experience in developing wireless promotions.

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the administration of the encoding and compiling of database derived from various mediums for brand use. Also responsible for managing and developing the wireless and text promotion for brands in order to assist in achieving sales targets.

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science
- Preferably male, at least 2 years experience in recruitment and selection
- Familiar with psychological tests
- Knows how to use office software
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Analytical Skills, Report Writing Skills

Responsibilities:

- To provide recruitment, selection and employment services and maintain an HR information system.

SALES OFFICER – ADVERTISING

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Marketing course
- 3 years Marketing experience
- Leadership skills, Sales Management, Ability to analyze the market, Ability to maintain good client relationship, Negotiation skills, Interpersonal skills and Communication skills
- Familiar with the sales and marketing of the newspaper Advertising industry

Responsibilities:

- Management of the Advertising Sales team, handling the broadsheet niche products and Inq TV with the objective of increasing in market share and sales revenues.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE – ADVERTISING

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably Marketing or any Business course
- Knowledge in basic computer operations
- Interpersonal skills, Report Writing skills, Presentation skills, Filing skills, Communication skills

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with clients and ad agencies with the end view of soliciting ad placement to meet overall sales quota.

AUDIT ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Accounting graduate, preferably Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least 2 years experience in auditing
- Preferably from reputable auditing firms
- Knowledge of General Accounting & Auditing Principles & Procedures
- Knowledge of Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data analysis, Taxation & Labor Laws
- Analytical skills, Team player, can promote & implement appropriate process improvements
- Knowledge of auditing systems in newspaper industry

Responsibilities:

- Perform audit procedures, organize working papers, prepare and communicate reports based on results of audit examinations.
- Assisting in identifying risk, evaluating controls and preparing audit plans/programs.

Send your application letter
and comprehensive resumé or e-mail to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

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move forward

A forward-looking and dynamic group of companies in Advertising, Publishing, & Food and Beverages distribution seeks career-oriented and enterprising individuals for the following positions:

Account Managers

- Male or Female, 21 to 35 years old
- Business Management, Marketing or any Business related course
- 1 - 2 years experience preferred, but not necessary
- Must be proficient in MS Office and can communicate well in English & Tagalog, both written & oral
- Must be creative and a self-starter
- Posses strategic thinking skills
- Have strong planning & implementation abilities.

Interested applicants must submit their resumes and photo to:
The Human Resources Department
Unit 2614, 26F Medical Plaza, San Miguel Avenue,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Tel: 687-0310 or
e-mail: adreflexintl@yahoo.com

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Multimedia Entertainment Organization has several "to die for" positions available.

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Young & mature-minded, 29-35 yrs. old, experienced in Sales Production, Intellectual Properties and Franchise Selling. Graduate of Marketing or any business-related course. With at least 4 yrs exp. in Sales/Marketing Account Management. Preferably with own car. Chinese speaking is an asset

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Can write/do it all to assist in Marketing, Sales, Advertising, Promotions, public relations, research, copy/creative writing, etc. with minimum supervision. Must be a natural hyperactive human between 288 to 336 full moons, taller than 66 inches with 2 to 3 yrs. working experience in a Marketing environment. Must love the good life. A real go-getter when it comes to work. In 7 simple words, JACK OF ALL TRADES, MASTER OF SOME

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Must have strong communication & interpersonal skills & desire to thrive in a fast-paced environment. Can render decisions when necessary. Directly reporting to the President. Single female & a graduate from an exclusive school. Must be at least 5'5", between 25-30 years old with a fantastic personality. Detail-oriented, self-starter. Can organize a heavy workload with constantly changing priorities under heavy deadlines. Free to travel here and abroad & willing to work long hours.

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- With good command of the English language
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- Call center/credit card telesales/customer service experience an advantage but not required.

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- College graduate
- Proficient in Graphic Software: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator & Corel Draw
- Can work under minimal supervision
- Hardworking and willing to work long hours

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- CPA
- Computer literate
- Preferably with working experience

You may send your resumé at fax number 647-4798 or e-mail us at ehdi@skyinet.net

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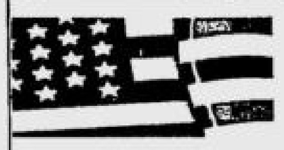

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Teach in one of the Public or Private Schools all across America. Our program is open to all LICENSED TEACHERS & OTHER PROFESSIONALS w/ Education Units and two years of teaching experience

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- 25 to 30 years of age
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- Excellent communication skills
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- Extensive 2-3 years experience in the lighting industry, selling/marketing lamps, fixture designs
- Experience in the different distribution channels an advantage

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- 27 to 32 years of age
- Knowledgeable and experienced in Electrical Lighting designs and projects
- Graduate of Electrical Engineering from a reputable institution and duly licensed
- Male/Female with pleasing personality
- Fairly good communication skills

This is an urgent need by the company for its 2005 campaign. Interested and qualified applicants may personally submit or send their comprehensive Curriculum Vitaé and/or Resumé with covered letter to:

Megaman Lighting Phils., Inc.
Unit 1601 East Tower, PSE Center
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Or Email to gvidescallar@megamanphil.com

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

EQUITY TRADING ASSISTANT

Female, 24 to 32 yrs; with work experience; Computer literate, esp. internet
Willing to work night shift 8:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m.

Graduate of Business course; knowledge in stock trading an advantage

Send resumé to Lapadema Company
71 Damar Loop, Damar Village,
Sgt. Rivera St., QC or
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WE NEED:

SALES PROFESSIONALS

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Dynamic, strong & with pleasing personality
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With good oral & written communication skills preferably with selling experience
Qualified applicants will receive competitive salary plus unlimited commission

SERVICE ADVISOR

Engineering graduate, Mechanical Eng'g is an advantage
21 – 25 years old; Computer literate
Experience is an advantage; Must know how to drive

CRD STAFF

Female, 21-25 years old;
College graduate; Computer literate
With pleasing personality, customer oriented

Apply in person with resume & 2x2 photo
Mon. - Fri. at:
1174 EDSA, BALINTAWAK, Q.C.
Tel. # 330-5331 look for Ms. Fema

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Main Function: Oversee the entire operation of the division. Servicing, Marketing and portfolio management

- Female, experienced and highly knowledgeable on EB products computer literate and with excellent oral and written communication skills.
- with Marketing skills and high leadership potential.

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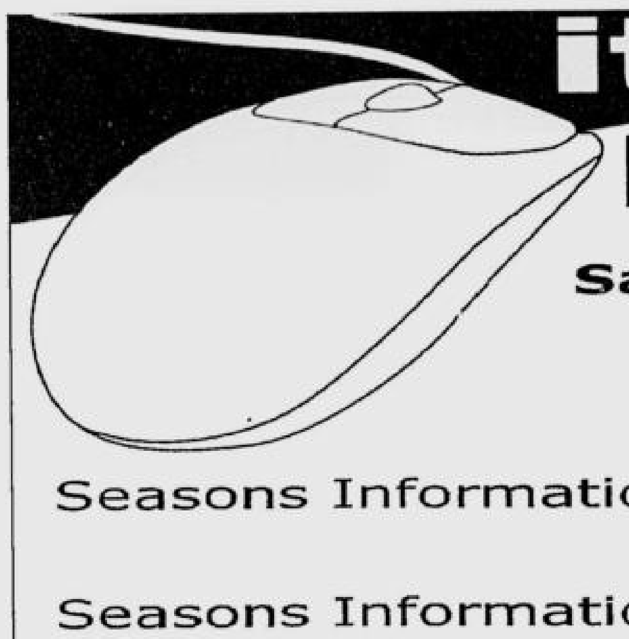
Main Function: Oversee the entire operation of the division. Servicing, Marketing and portfolio management.

- Female, experienced and highly knowledgeable on non-life insurance products, computer literate and with excellent oral and written communication skills
- with Marketing skills and high leadership potential.

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, complete set of Resumé with 2x2 picture to MCPO Box No. 2292.



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We advance the quality of life of individuals and organizations by delivering the SOLUTIONS to their communications-based needs. We provide quality and personalized service that exceeds our customers' needs and expectations. We are driven by a culture of excellence and innovation, enabled by best-in-market talent and superior operating effectiveness and flexibility.

Best Telecommunications company in the Philippines by Consumer's Choice & Dangal ng Pilipinas Annual Awards (January 2004)

Awarded 4th Place in the 2003 Far Eastern Economic Review 200: Asia's Leading Companies, Philippines (December 2003)

Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) Employer of the Year (2000)

Sr. Account Management Specialists/ Account Management Specialists

- ☞ Bachelor's degree in Marketing or equivalent
- ☞ With at least 2-3 years work experience in customer service
- ☞ Experience in Sales an advantage
- ☞ Possess good negotiation skills
- ☞ Analytical skills required and keen attention to details
- ☞ Willing to work long hours
- ☞ Must be PC literate
- ☞ Should be Filipino citizen; height must be 5'3 for female and 5'6 for male.

Dealer Sales Account Managers

- ☞ Graduate of a 4-year degree course
- ☞ Must have experience in fast moving consumer goods industry
- ☞ Must have 2-3 years experience in sales & distribution
- ☞ Must have a driver's license
- ☞ Must be computer literate
- ☞ Pleasing personality
- ☞ Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines

Customer Service Assistants/ Associates

- ☞ Graduate of any 4-year business related course
- ☞ At least 1 year work experience in the related field
- ☞ Good communication skills
- ☞ Willing to work on shifting schedules
- ☞ Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- ☞ Must be PC literate
- ☞ Should be Filipino citizen; height must be 5'3 for female and 5'6 for male.

Cashiers

- ☞ Bachelor's degree in Accountancy, Banking, Finance, Commerce or equivalent
- ☞ With at least 2 years work experience in the field of cashiering and/or tellering
- ☞ Must be customer service-oriented
- ☞ Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines
- ☞ Must be PC literate
- ☞ Should be Filipino citizen; height must be 5'3 for female and 5'6 for male.

Qualified applicants who meet the above requirements may apply personally. Kindly bring your resume, 2x2 picture, photocopy of transcript of records to:

Staffing Operations Department
3F GLOBE Telecom Plaza I
Mandaluyong City

Applicants residing in North & South Luzon are encouraged also to apply.

First 100 applicants will be accommodated on October 18 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon; the next 100 applicants will be accommodated on October 18 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and so on and so forth.

Henkel

Henkel is a world leader with brands and advanced technologies that operates in three strategic business areas – Home Care, Personal Care and Technologies.

The Henkel Technologies Group is one of the leading suppliers of adhesives, sealants and surface treatments for Industrial customers. It serves the automotive, electronics, aerospace, metal industries, assembly, maintenance and repair, consumer goods and packaging industries. Strong grands, such as Loctite, Teroson, P3, Hysol, Multicore and Liofol are key drivers behind its success.

More than 50,000 employees work for the Henkel Group worldwide. People in 125 countries around the world trust in brands and technologies from Henkel.

Position available:

The Technologies group of Henkel is in need of a highly qualified individual to fill the position of a

Marketing Assistant

The position involves creating and designing brochures and advertisements; sourcing premiums and give-aways; research and analysis of industry information; managing of customer databases; organizing events such as exhibits and seminars; website management & content copywriting.

As a global player, Henkel provides substantial training and development opportunities and offers an attractive salary and benefits package.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Marketing or related Business course.
- At least 2 years marketing experience
- Excellent proficiency in English, both writting and oral
- Experience in Graphic software such as Macromedia Freehand, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator & Pagemaker. Knowledge in CorelDRAW and Autocad is an advantage.
- Experience in copy/creative writing, layout design
- Some background in creating research and data analysis
- Flexible to adapt to changing priorities in a fast-paced environment
- Familiar with the Industrial Marketing setting or at least willing to learn.
- Knowledge in Powerpoint, Word & Excel is a must
- Creative, a teamplayer, determined and highly organized

Applicants may submit their resumé with a recent 2x2 photo not later than October 22, 2004 to address below:

Human Resources Dept.
Henkel Philippines, Inc.
3/F Alabang Business Tower, 1216 Acacia Avenue,
Madrigal Business Park, Alabang Muntinlupa City
Email: belcy.cruz@henkel.com

An established group of companies, with manufacturing and marketing operation throughout South East Asia specializing in specialty in electro-chemicals and products used in the PCB and PCB Assembly Industries in seeking suitable candidates to fit the following positions for Philippine Operation

2 SALES ENGINEER

- Graduate in chemical, electronics or business course
- Solid background and with minimum of 2 years working experience
- Candidate with technical background in the PCB production line and PCBA SMT line is preferred
- Result oriented and fulfills technical assistance to our clients
- Must be 28 years old & below
- Mature, dedicated, responsible & independent
- Able to communicate effectively
- Willing to travel and with good interpersonal skill

1 ACCOUNTANT

- Graduate of BSC/BSBA - Accountancy
- CPA preferred
- Minimum 3 years experience in Bookeeping & General Accounting
- Must be knowledgeable in government reports and requirements, such as Tax reporting, Business Permit processing
- Possess good communication skill, high analytical ability & result oriented
- Able to work independently
- Computer literacy is a must requirements for the position

Good salary & benefits awaits to the selected candidates.
Interested parties, please send the resumé with recent photo by post or E-mail to:

The Administration Dept.
Units 5A & 5B 5th Floor
MAPRE Asian Corporate Center
Madrigal Business Park
Ayala-Alabang, Muntinlupa City
E-mail: comphil@cnl.net

Only shortlisted candidates will be notify

URGENT JOB OPENING

Reservations and Ticketing Agent

Location: Makati City

Qualifications

- 3+ years work experience in a travel agency as a reservations and/or ticketing agent.
- Comprehensive knowledge of the Galileo and Abacus computer reservations system for reservations, fares and ticketing.
- Must be able to issue travel documents such as hotel/tour vouchers, MPD, manual and automated plane tickets for both domestic and international destinations.
- Must be hard-working, trustworthy, proficient in English and Filipino and must have a pleasing personality.

Interested parties may forward their resumé with picture to fdumlao@pworld.net.ph

---

IMMEDIATE HIRING

IN MAKATI OFFICE

PHIL. AXA LIFE CENTRE
Suite 2104, 21st Flr.
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
(Beside Makati Post Office)

TO OCCUPY VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE COMPANY

IF YOU ARE:

- ✓ College graduates of at least 4 year course from reputable schools and universities
- ✓ Energetic men and women of at least 20 years old and above
- ✓ Individuals who have a good command of English or Chinese Language
- ✓ With or Without Work Experience
- ✓ Willing to start immediately (not presently employed or enrolled)

THEN YOU DESERVE:

- ✓ A STARTING PAY OF ABOVE AVERAGE INCOME
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See us in your PROPER BUSINESS ATTIRE with 2 pcs. (2x2) passport-sized pictures, complete resumé, clipping of this ad and valid ID from Monday-Wednesday (October 18, 19 & 20, 2004) from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. present another ID to gain entrance in the building.

RIOFIL CORPORATION

A progressive construction company, is urgently in need of:

CIVIL ENGINEERS

Male, 26 to 35 years old, at least 5 years experience gained from building construction, computer proficient, CE license an advantage.

Interested parties may send or personally submit their resume and other pertinent credentials to **Personnel & General Affairs Department, 2802 Antel Global Corp. Ctr. J. Vargas Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City**

The best companies need the best people.

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Why some people always succeed at work

By Kevin Donlin

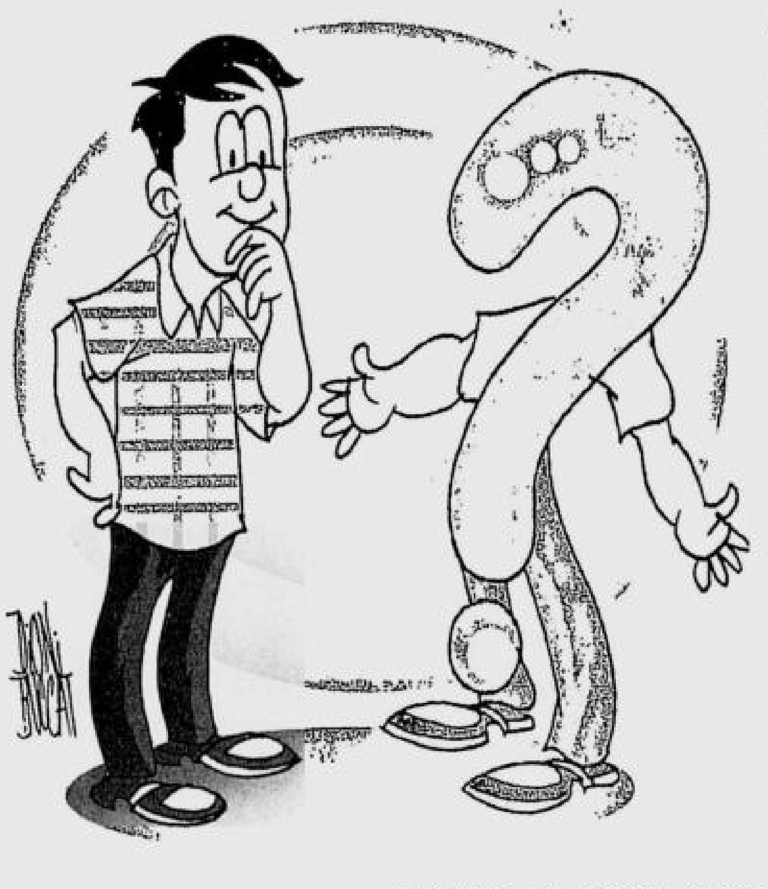


ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

SOME people always seem to get faster promotions, make more money and generally stand out on the job, in any economy.

Why is that?

While there's no one thing that will guarantee career success for everyone, there are three things you can start doing today to make yourself more valuable—to any employer, in any industry.

Here they are:

1. **Add value**. "Adding value is the single most powerful personal attribute you can possess," says Les McKeown, President and CEO of success-at-work.com and author of numerous books on career achievement.

Did you ever hand a job or task to someone, knowing you would have to go back over it once they finished, to fix the inevitable errors and generally "mop up" after them?

"People who add value are just the opposite. You know when you give them a task that it will be completed on time, the way you want it, with no loose ends or unfinished parts," says McKeown.

However, really successful "value adders" see the completion of an allocated task as only the starting point.

Maybe it's by turning an event into a process. Example: not just clearing up a filing mess, but putting a filing system in place to avoid future backlogs.

"In whatever form it shows itself, naturally successful people consistently and appropriately add value—all the time," says McKeown.

2. **Become an expert**. A surefire way to increase your value on the job is to keep learning. This can be as complex as getting your MBA or as simple as reading a book every week.

Whatever you do to increase your expertise, make sure your boss knows about it! Completing training, such as Microsoft's MCSE certification, can make it more likely that you'll be rewarded appropriately in your next performance review.

Here's an example from the field of medicine.

I'm told the average doctor makes $160,000 per year. Not bad. But I know a liver specialist in Michigan who makes $500,000 and lives in a house the size of an airplane hanger. He's a recognized expert. And he's rewarded appropriately.

What subject can you become an expert in for your employer?

3. **Be there every day**. Can 80 percent of success really come just from showing up, to paraphrase Woody Allen?

In the minds of many, the answer is "yes!"

"I still remember my first promotion with a mixture of pride and amusement," says McKeown.

"I was a young kid back in Ireland, and I had a paper route before school. I needed the money and never missed a morning."

"After three months, the owner pulled me aside and said: 'Les, I'm going on vacation for three weeks. I want you to be in charge. I'll give you an extra five shillings every week.' "

When McKeown asked his manager why he had been chosen over older, more experienced newsboys, he got this reply: "Simple. You're always there. That means more to me than anything else. I wanted peace of mind on vacation. I knew you'd be there every morning."

Are you there every day for your employer? If so, you may find your steady presence makes you more valuable than less dependable co-workers.

By adding value, becoming an expert, and "being there" every day, you can make yourself indispensable to any employer. Which can lead to faster promotions, keys to the executive washroom—whatever it is that defines career success for you.

Best of luck to you!

(Kevin Donlin is president of Guaranteed Resumés. Since 1996, he and his writers have provided resumés, cover letters and online job search assistance to clients on five continents. For more information, visit http://www.gresumes.com/book.htm.)

'How can I improve ...

From page 8

6.1 Name of company
6.2 Duration of employment
6.3 Position or designation
6.4 Reporting to whom
6.5 Main tasks
6.6 Major accomplishments
7. Educational background
7.1 College degree and field of specialization—school, honors attained, years attended
7.2 Secondary school—school, honors obtained, years attended
7.3 Training programs attended; dates
8. Professional affiliations
9. Personal data

Features of good resumé

The aim of both letter of application and resumé is to influence a prospective employer to single you out from other job applicants and call you in for an interview.

The contents and visual appearance of both documents must be impressive; otherwise, they will be set aside and filed, or worse, be even thrown into the wastebasket.

The following are the features of a good resumé:

- No typographical or grammatical errors
- Accurate and valid information. Be honest and truthful. Don't exaggerate.
- No initials and jargon
- Brief: two to four pages in length, five pages maximum
- Uses bullets; no long narratives

Standard outline

There is a fairly standard outline form for specifying information about yourself. I will be giving some examples in this column. As I make the presentation below, look at your resumé and improve it as needed.

1. Heading: The heading should include your full name, address, telephone and cell phone numbers. This information may either be centered at the top of the page or placed in the top left-hand corner.

2. Career goal (or objective): This should state your goal for the next five years, specifying the position and function and why.

Example: "A financial management position that will use my technical skills in both finance and accounting to improve company profitability. At the same time, this position enables me to develop and hone my potentials."

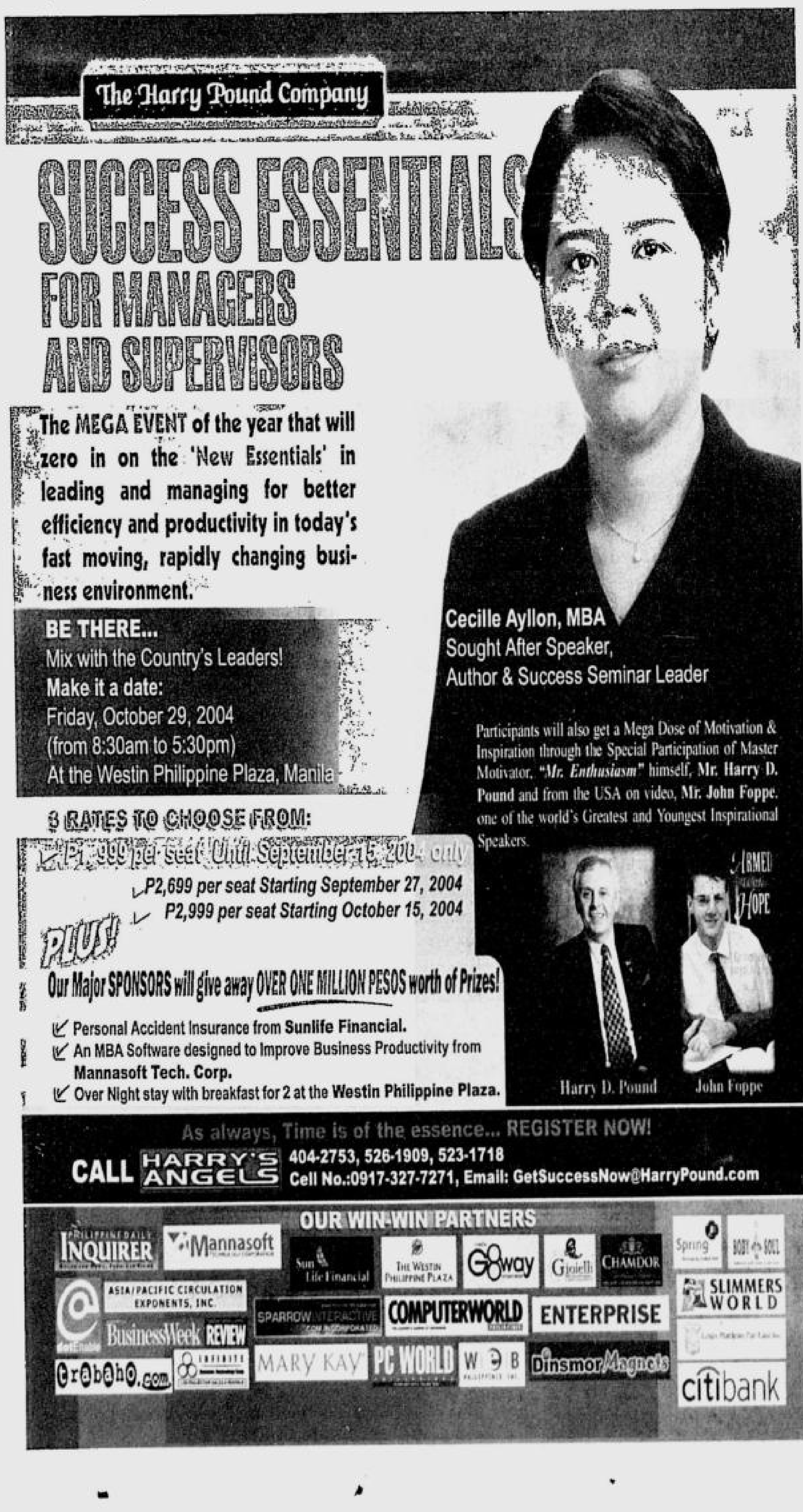
3. Career summary: Summarize your work experience in one to two sentences, in what organization and industry you worked in. Write one to two sentences describing your key competencies and one to two sentences describing your personality strengths, work behavior and attitudes.

Example: "I have worked in several multinational companies rising from cost accounting clerk to financial analyst, to accounting supervisor and finance manager.

My competencies are in general management, financial planning and analyses, payroll and tax planning.

My personal attributes include the following: excellent interpersonal skills with people of all levels in the organization; analytical and meticulous; have a sense of urgency; high stress tolerance; goal-oriented and task-oriented; possesses initiative and strong self-motivation, among others."

(Ms Santamaria is president of Career Systems Inc., a leading career development consultancy company. Send requests for career advice to carsys@qinet.net *or to* peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph)



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Author & Success Seminar Leader

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Harry D. Pound
John Foppe

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As always, Time is of the essence... REGISTER NOW!
CALL HARRY'S ANGELS 404-2753, 526-1909, 523-1718
Cell No.:0917-327-7271, Email: GetSuccessNow@HarryPound.com

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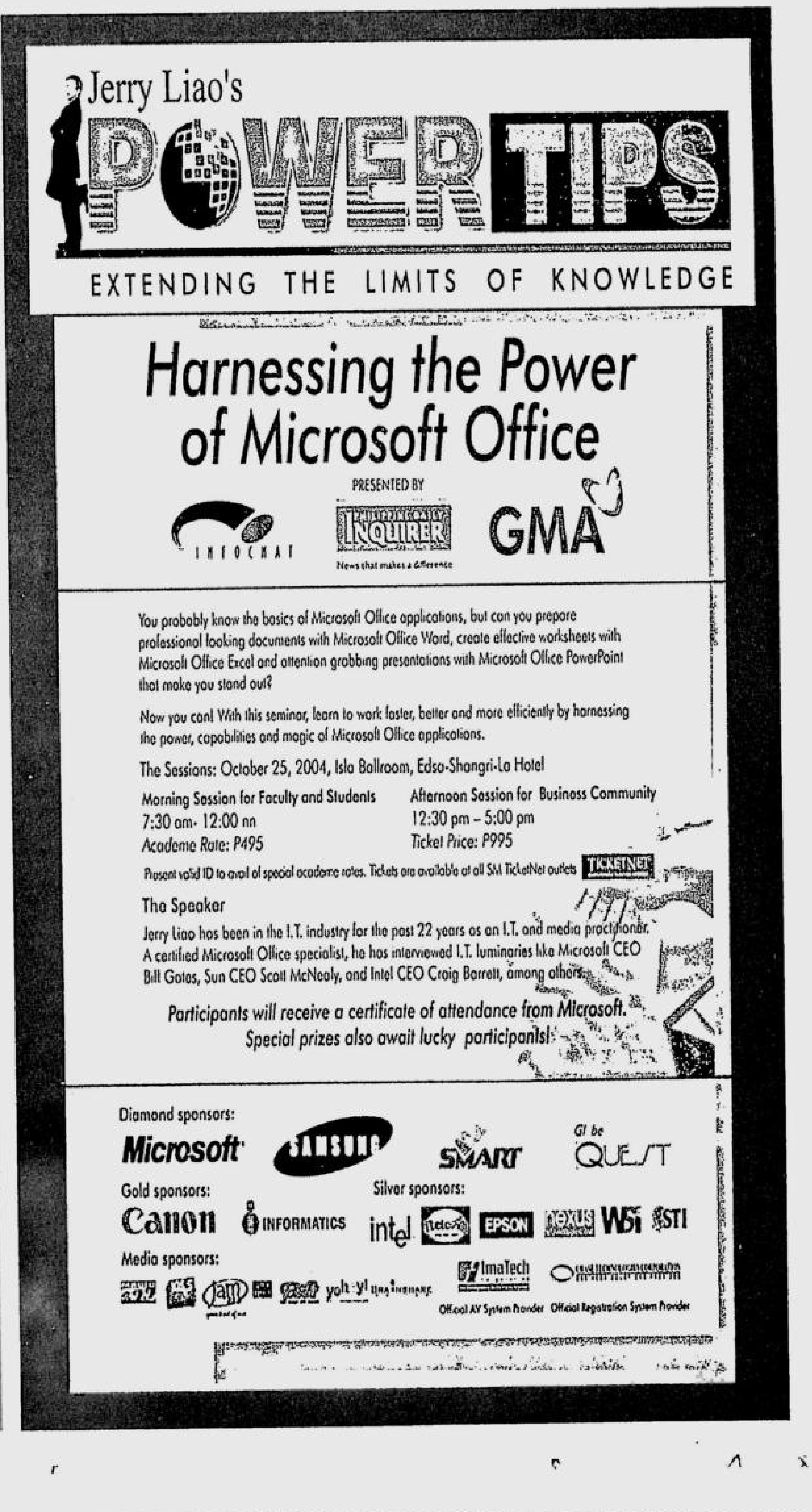

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PRESENTED BY

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Now you can! With this seminar, learn to work faster, better and more efficiently by harnessing the power, capabilities and magic of Microsoft Office applications.

The Sessions: October 25, 2004, Isla Ballroom, Edsa-Shangri-La Hotel

Morning Session for Faculty and Students
7:30 am- 12:00 nn
Academe Rate: P495

Afternoon Session for Business Community
12:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Ticket Price: P995

Present valid ID to avail of special academe rates. Tickets are available at all SM TicketNet outlets

The Speaker

Jerry Liao has been in the I.T. industry for the past 22 years as an I.T. and media practitioner. A certified Microsoft Office specialist, he has interviewed I.T. luminaries like Microsoft CEO Bill Gates, Sun CEO Scott McNealy, and Intel CEO Craig Barrett, among others.

Participants will receive a certificate of attendance from Microsoft. Special prizes also await lucky participants!

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FILINVEST 1 HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

URGENTLY NEEDS

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- Male, at least 35 years old
- Proficient in oral & written communication
- With good working attitude and can manage people
- Engineering course or Public Administration Course graduate

OFFICE CLERK

- Male/Female of good moral character
- Accounting graduate
- Computer literate, effective on filing tasks
- At least 2 years working experience

Previous applicants need not apply

Interested applicants need to be residing in Quezon City or willing to relocate in QC. Kindly submit comprehensive resumé with 2x2 photo and other documents to:

The Filinvest 1 Administration Office,
Filinvest 1 Subdivision, Batasan Hills, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 931-5383/931-0467

URGENTLY NEEDED:

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- must be an accounting graduate or any related business course

BOOKKEEPER

- must be an accounting graduate
- w/ at least 2 years experience in bookkeeping
- must be computer literate
- proficiency in working w/ accounting
- integrated software an advantage

MAINTENANCE STAFF

- must have an electrical/mechanical background

COUNTER PERSONNEL

- graduate of any course or at least college level

Apply personally or send resumé to our corporate office:

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- Preferably male; between 26-32 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year business related course
- Must be an accomplished Sales Person
- Must have experience in dealing with different retail outlets all over the Philippines particularly Visayas and Mindanao and key cities of Luzon
- Must be fluent in English, Filipino and knowledge of Visayan dialect will be an advantage
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality; impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER

- Female, Between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management
- With at least two (2) years experience in all facets of Human Resource Management
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must have strong leadership qualities, organizational and interpersonal skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality and can deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must be people-oriented, analytical, and highly motivated
- Must be computer literate

BOUTIQUE MANAGERS/SALES SUPERVISORS

- Female; at least 5'2 in height
- Between 25-35 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year course
- Preferably with work experience in a fashion retail establishment
- Must possess a pleasing and aggressive personality
- Must be very good in customer relations
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communications
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A GOOD COMPENSATION PACKAGE AND A POSSIBILITY FOR PROMOTION

WE HAVE JOB OPENINGS FOR THE FF POSITIONS:

HR SUPERVISOR
HR ASSISTANT
ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Highly organized w/ experience
- Proficient in computer

50 SERVICE CREWS
30 STORE CASHIERS

ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE FEMALE; COLLEGE GRADUATE; WILLING TO WORK LONG & FLEXIBLE HOURS; MUST BE WILLING TO UNDERGO TRAINING; EXPERIENCE IN YOUR FIELD IS AN ADVANTAGE

Please apply in person at 158 P. Sevilla St., between 6th & 7th Ave., Grace Park, Caloocan City. BRING RESUMÉ w/ 2X2 colored photo.

WE NEED YOU!

ANVIL PUBLISHING, INC. is looking for the following:

1) **EDITORIAL ASSISTANT FOR TEXTBOOKS (EA)** who will
   - coordinate with authors, artists and editors in textbook projects and other academic publications who is
   - female, at least 21 years old, a college graduate (fresh graduates are welcome to apply), proficient in both verbal and written Filipino and English, computer literate, can work under pressure, comfortable with minimum pay (probationary period), can easily work with a team, and likes books;
2) **FREELANCE BOOK DESIGNERS** who are creative, open-minded and keenly interested to work with books, computer-savvy, comfortable with a per-project payment scheme, and can deliver projects on time.

Submit preliminary requirements not later than OCTOBER 27, 2004 to **THE MANAGING EDITOR**, 8007-B Pioneer Street, Barangay Kapitolyo, Pasig City 1603 (email: **pubdept@anvil.com.ph**). For the Editorial Assistant applicants, email as inline text (no attachments, pls.) your resumé and photo. For the book designers, your resumé, photo and actual work samples.

Hapag Kainan

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F; 23-28 yrs; graduate of Bus. Mgmt, HRM, Nutrition, Food Tech or other food-related course; with experience in food service; for assignment in MM or Laguna

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M/F; 22-28 yrs; graduate of any Bus. Course

Apply at:
20 Felipe Pike St., Bagong Ilog, Pasig City (near C5)
(Monday-Wednesday • 9am-2pm)

Wanted

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Male/female, graduate of any 4 year course, w/ experience is advantage, knowledge of comptuer parts & peripherals is a must, resourceful & hardworking.

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One (1) Marketing Assistant

The candidate must possess the following qualifications:

- Male or female not more than 26 years old
- Graduate of Marketing
- 2 years experience along the lines of market planning and implementation
- Very good command of spoken and written English
- Analytical
- People oriented
- Pleasing personality and ability to work under pressure

Interested candidates should send their resumés with pictures via email to: aindv@yahoo.com

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AM CLEOFE PRINTS is in need of

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- Graduate of Fine Arts or related course
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- Male or Female, 25-35 years old, honest & hardworking

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IMPORTANT: Qualified applicants will start immediately.
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Rizal Blvd., Dunaguete City
Tel. 225-2000

November 17, 2004
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
L'Fisher Hotel
14th & Lacson St. Bacolod City
Tel. 404-3426

November 19, 2004
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Pryce Plaza Cagayan de Oro
Carmen Hill, Cagaya de Oro City
Tel. 858-3111

November 21, 2004
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Marriott Cebu City Hotel
Cardinal Rosales Ave., Cebu City
Tel. 232-6100

November 23, 2004
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Metro Center
Tagbilaran City, Bohol
Tel 411-2599

November 30, 2004
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Manila Diamond Hotel
Roxas Blvd cor Dr. J. Quintos, Manila
Tel. 528-3000

For more info, you may call/text Ms. Linda Quindo Ong Vano at Cell No. 001630-8549842 or 0919-2434659 (use from Nov 12-30, 2004) or email at expediacare@comcast.net

Office Address: 20 North Roselle Road Roselle, Illinois USA 60172

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Attractive, Fluent in English
5'3 for Female & 5'5 for Male
Willing to work on graveyard shift
Alert and patient

REQUIREMENTS

Printed Resume, 1 pc. 2x2 picture
Photocopy & Original of NBI Clearance (less than 1 year old),
Birth Certificate & Transcript of Records

Applicants may apply personally at:
EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT
Ground Floor, EHA Building
Duty Free Fiestamall
Ninoy Aquino Ave., Parañaque City
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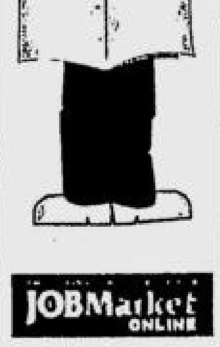

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PLEASING PERSONALITY
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OFFICE STAFF

W/ ACCOUNTING BACKGROUND

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- Not more than 40 years of age
- College Degree holder
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Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

What options do you have when facing conflict?

DEAR WW: I've had a long simmering conflict with a co-worker. I'm not sure how I should proceed. Can you outline some options?
Reluctant Warrior

Recently, I read about two Arizona nursing home residents who got in a fistfight. Luckily, neither was hurt and after they were separated, the combatants could not remember what happened or why they were fighting.

Unfortunately, like these two seniors, many of us forget to fully explore our options for addressing and resolving conflict at work. Below I've listed five possible strategies for overcoming conflict. For more strategies, check out "A Survival Guide for Working with Humans" by Gini Graham Scott (Amacom, 2004).

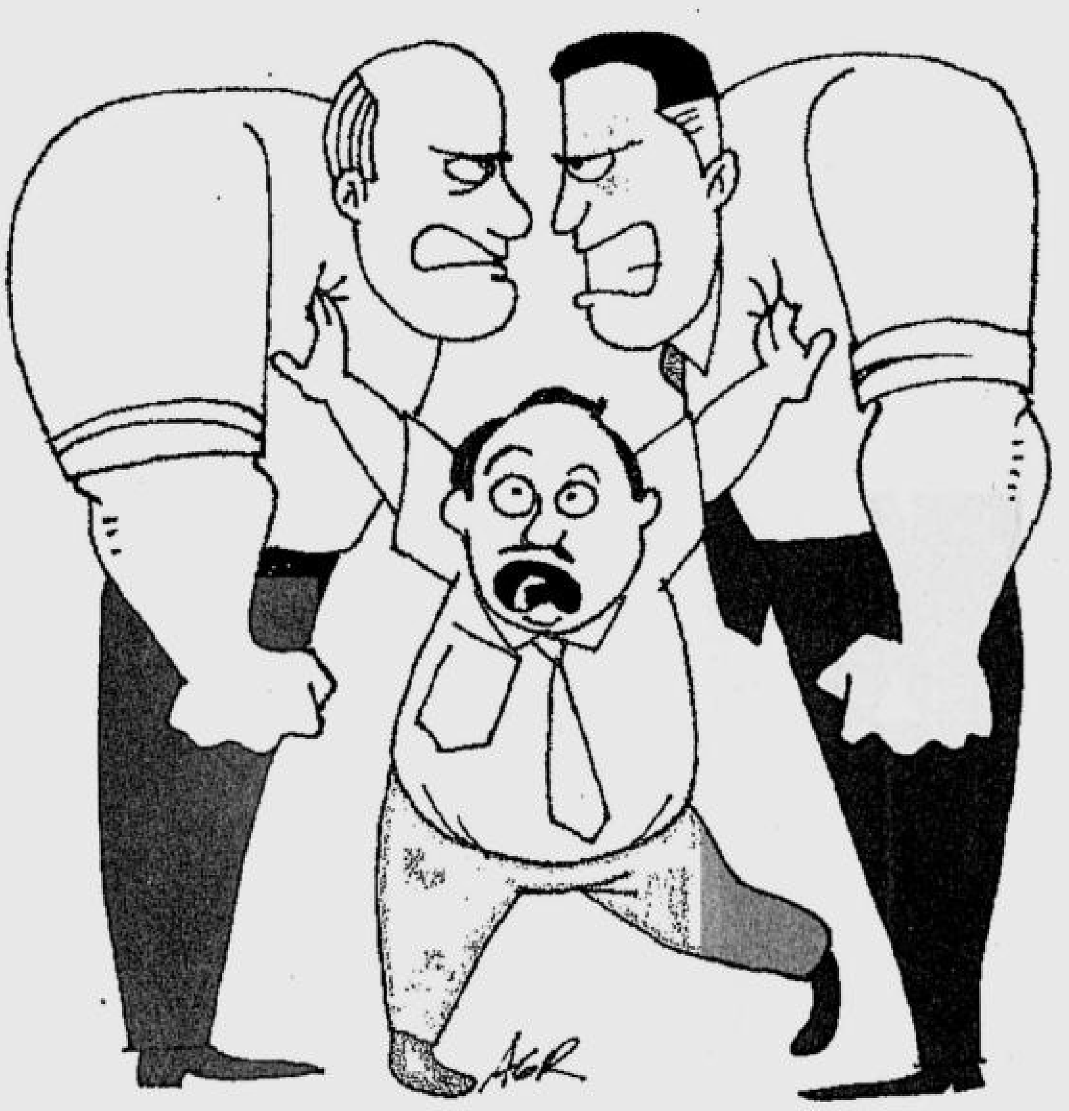

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

• Confrontation

Let's start with what most of us think of when we think of conflict, confrontation. This is when you exercise your power to get what you want. As fun as it can be to flex your muscles with someone who you have more power than, confrontation runs the risk of alienating the other party. So even if you have the power to get what you want, you might want to consider the four additional approaches that are available to you. They are:

• Collaboration

This is where you work with the other party to consider the issues that you're facing and to work together to resolve them. Obviously, you've got to have a level of trust with the other party, or be willing to take a chance on creating it. Many of the times that I've gone this route I've discovered that there were ways that the other party could help me that I didn't even know about.

• Compromise

I think that this "C" word gets a bad reputation at work. There are often many times where our pride gets in the way of a better outcome. In compromise, each side gives a little so that both sides can get something that they need out of the conflict. The more you can give ground on things that aren't that important to you, the more the odds will increase that you can nail down the stuff that really matters to you.

• Accommodation

This is where you give in to what the other party wants because they have more power or the issue isn't that important to you. Even if they are more powerful, you can ask for something in return for your accommodation. You might be surprised what they'll give if you initiate this process.

• Avoidance

General Patton said don't get in a fight if you don't gain anything by winning. Amen! Often we can avoid a conflict by leaving, not thinking about it or by delaying any action. Remember, it takes two to tango, just because someone else thinks you are in a conflict it doesn't mean that you have to join in.

Age doesn't always bring wisdom when it comes to dealing with conflict, but if you can remember to use these techniques you will be wise indeed. And they may save you a sock in the jaw.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: Which conflict strategy do you use the most at work?

—Confrontation, 8.3 percent

—Accommodation, 13.4 percent

—Compromise, 21 percent

—Avoidance, 22.8 percent

—Collaboration, 34.4 percent

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

WORKING WOUNDED
Bob Rosner

'How can I improve my resumé?'

By Josie O. Santamaria

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

I WILL be graduating next month and my goal is to apply to multinational companies as a technical support staff, programmer or any IT-related position. Being aware of the harsh realities in job hunting, I really need some pointers from you. I just made my resumé but I'm not sure if it is enough to impress prospective employers. I want to improve it, especially its contents, to ensure that I get initial interviews or tests. Can you give me some constructive criticism with the best of your expertise?
Seeking Advice

You are right about the need to impress prospective employers with a well-prepared resumé accompanied by a letter of application.

The letter of application is either a response to an advertised position or a means of finding out if an opening for a position exists. Address your letter to a specific person or position which appears in the advertisement.

First paragraph

Your first paragraph should state that you are applying for a particular job position.

Example 1: "Your advertisement in the Sunday Inquirer Job Market section dated Oct. 10, 2004, for the position of HR assistant, requires a person with an AB Psychology degree; is computer literate; is proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint application; proficient in English, both oral and written; and can relate well with people of all levels in an organization. I fit all these requirements. I am, therefore, applying for this position."

If you have heard about a vacant position in a certain company, and this has not been advertised, you may start with this opener:

Example 2: "Do you need an administrative assistant who is proficient in several computer software applications (Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint); knows how to operate office equipment such as computer, fax machine, photocopier; proficient in oral and written English; who is resourceful, has high energy level, has a sense of urgency, is a team player, and gets along well with people? If you do, please consider me for this position."

Second paragraph

The second paragraph should briefly describe your last work experience, position and major achievements. Then, refer the reader to the enclosed resumé for more information about you.

The third paragraph should include the following: a courteous request for an interview at the convenience of the interviewer, and where and how you can be contacted.

The resumé is a concise summary of all the information about you with the following format:

1. Heading
2. Career objective
3. Career summary
4. Key achievements
5. Key competencies
6. Work experience. For every company where you have worked, include the following:

HOWCAN/P.6

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

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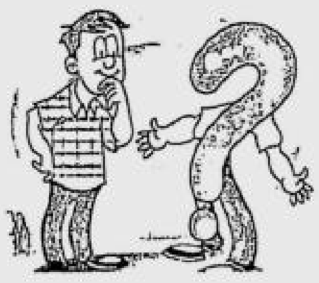
HR Focus: *Convergys Human Resources Team p.9*

Why some people always succeed at work p. 6



Dogged perseverance

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

IN THE WORKPLACE, calling out to someone day and night may earn you the title of *makulit*—or win you praises for being persevering—depending on who's looking. Your boss may think you have mastered the art of follow-up (that's *kakulitan* put to good use), while your colleague or assistant views that "art" as plain irritating. What matters is you get results by persistence. But how can you ever be sure of the kind of results your persistence will get you?

Negotiators at CBA season, like strikers at the picket line, may equally be persevering in their demands at the workplace, but as history has shown over and over again, even the most doggedly persevering of them do not always get what they want. Or if they do, it never satisfies them for long.

Higher wages, better working conditions and added fringe benefits are more rewarding, when not only demanded but also worked for. Finding job satisfaction is a two-way street: employers must ensure their people of a fair deal, and workers should commit themselves to aiming always to render excellent performance no matter their position in the company. And never is one's commitment in work more tried than when a situation in the workplace seems hopeless: the profit level dips, there's talk of retrenchment, the country's economic climate dampens enthusiasm, etc. Perseverance then becomes a sign of faith—in the company, in oneself, and in the all-knowing Father who is never daunted by our *kakulitan* but instead "secures the rights of His chosen ones who call out to Him day and night." (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

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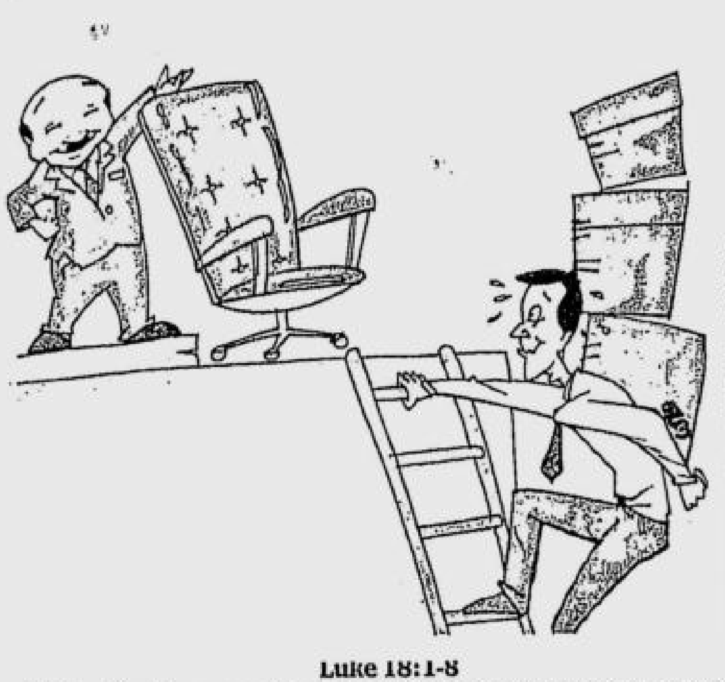

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

Luke 18:1-8
Will not God then secure the rights of His chosen ones who call out to Him day and night? Will He be slow to answer them?

Being in need

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

I MET Jenny, a mother of two kids, and a "non-documented" overseas Filipino worker abroad. She shared with me her constant worry about her precarious work situation, her continuous search for help from fellow workers, and her incessant prayers to God that she may get the proper work documents. She asked my help, too, and I could only assure her with the words of Jesus in today's Gospel, which promise that God will answer "his chosen ones who call out to Him day and night."

Like Jenny, everyone in the workplace needs help, some small, others big. The employer needs the workers to realize the goals of his business. The worker, likewise, depends on the salary he gets from the employer to support his family and himself. Every person in every unit of the whole production system of a company needs others for an efficient performance. There is such interdependence there that if a worker fails to do his task, a possible breakdown could happen in the work process. No one in the workplace is so perfect and complete that he or she needs no assistance from the others.

When everyone realizes his need for the others and starts to accept his dependence on them, the workplace becomes a community of persons with a common experience—to be in need and to be ready to help those in need. The worker who finds a support community in the workplace will surely feel secure, when great difficulties come his way; it is like feeling the presence and support of God, who surely answers the prayers of His chosen ones. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

HR group redefines meaning of teamwork

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

HR Focus

MERRIAM and Webster define teamwork as an activity of a number of persons acting in close associations as members of a unit. Convergys' human resources team adds to the duo's definition. For them teamwork is more than just a group of people working together. Teamwork for the group means sharing the same goals and continuous improvement.

With over 60,000 employees and about 57 contact centers worldwide, Convergys employs a big group of HR professionals in the Philippines to steer the company towards continuous growth, productivity and profitability. A company that provides outsourcing for integrated billing, employee care, and customer care services, Convergys operates on the principle of teamwork.

Young group

Convergys' HR team is composed mostly of young professionals in their early twenties. Growing in productivity and numbers, the group is headed by Penny Bongato, HR Director. From an HR team of 15 last year, the group charge has grown to 60. Getting a big group of people with different backgrounds and personalities to blend well is an easy task for Bongato. "She has an uncanny ability to harness together team members with diverse backgrounds and create an environment that brings out the best in each one," attests one of the members.

In a big group, it's easy for a member to lose one's individuality and self-worth. "It's always good to break the team in small groups in order that each member can always contribute to his or her maximum potential," says Bongato. "As the team grows, it's easy to lose the agility in our recruitment processes. The turning radius of the wheel is bigger, making us vulnerable to smaller companies with nimble recruitment teams." She answers to this concern by making sure each employee is recognized for his or her contribution to the team.

FROM left to right, second row (second row): Alex Raymundo, Krissy Maxino, Wak Laqui, Eric Concepcion, Frances Ode, Edna Pangilinan and the rest of the Convergys human resources team members kid around at the shoot. ROGER CARPIO

Job satisfaction

Every member of the HR group believes that he or she plays a unique role in the organization. The team also believes that the role extends to the community. "It is knowing that we help our economy by generating good jobs," says Bongato's group. With great responsibility resting on their shoulders, the team takes recruiting and hiring seriously. "We realize that our success is only as good as the quality of our people. So we put extremely stringent guidelines in place at the front end of the recruiting process."

For the team, nothing is more satisfying than building a world-class center by employing world-class workers. To achieve this, the HR group adopts a simple formula. "Recruit the best people, train and develop them to deliver excellent results to Convergys clients, thus, promoting new business opportunities leading to long-term viability, and economic growth."

Challenges

The group hopes to be able to grow the company into 6,000 employees by the end of the year. A tough challenge for the HR team, but they believe that as long as they work together, nothing is impossible. To answer the challenge, the group has adapted a new paradigm and that is to make opportunities out of problems. "For example, what do you do with a low hit rate in hiring call center agents that plagues the industry? What do you do with 95 percent of the candidates who fail due to insufficient English communication skills?" These are the questions team members try to answer. The HR team handles this predicament by designing and implementing initiatives promoting "English Only Campaigns" not only within the organization but also in campuses and municipalities.

After hiring the best talents, the next step is to keep these assets. "Our number one challenge in HR is how to support the massive ramps that we are facing and how to build the infrastructure that will create an environment conducive to retaining the employees we worked so hard in attracting and hiring," discloses a team member.

Common goals

"Our team understands and shares one common goal that is clearly translated into daily tasks," shares another team member. In addition, most decisions in the team are deliberated upon as a group. This is because according to the team, "Better decisions are made when all are involved and team efforts transcend individual contributions."

Aside from growing the population of the company, another goal of the HR team is to achieve continuous improvement. Because of this objective, the team is constantly changing or redesigning processes for greater results. "We are not afraid of letting go of current processes in order to make way for new ones that promise greater success," says another team member. "We refuse to allow victories to lull us into a false sense of security and erode our capability to meet bigger and greater goals," adds another.

The corporate trend is steering its way towards globalization. Convergys' HR team recognizes the urgent need to keep up. "Our team appreciates global competition and continually strives to re-establish the Filipino's stature and competence in the international market," says a team member. Another one of their goal is to deliver world-class results. "We believe that successes should be shared and benchmarked on a global basis."

Bongato helps her people achieve their goals by assigning them to the right area, where they can maximize their strengths. According to the HR director, when employees are "in the zone," they become world-class employees. Members agree by saying "every member of our team believes that we can each do something extraordinary."

Meeting goals

Once they are positioned in the right place, Bongato gives them targets and realistic expectations. She also makes sure they're provided with ample resources to accomplish their tasks. Result-oriented, she manages her team lightly which gives them the freedom to express their individuality and practice their own management style. According to the team head, this strategy always produces the best results. "Manage lightly but cheer wildly about their accomplishments," she says. On moving ahead, she only has this to say, "benchmark with global standards, beat it by a mile and take the competition to the cleaners."

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December 2, 2004
8:30 - 9:30 Registration

OPENING SESSION
9:30 - 9:45 National Anthem
Invocation
9:45 - 10:00 Welcome remarks
Bro. Armin A. Luistro, FSC
President, La Salle University

OPENING PLENARY
10:00 - 10:30 Mr. Manuel V. Pangilinan
CEO, PLDT
10:30 - 10:45 Open Forum
10:45 - 11:00 Coffee Break

OPENING OF THE EXHIBIT
11:00 - 12:00 Opening of Exhibit
12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break
1:30 - 3:15 Simultaneous Sessions

TRACK 1: International Standards and Corporate Governance
1:30 - 2:00 The Accounting Profession Redefined.
Setting Standards for Good Governance
Mr. Gregorio S. Navarro - Audit Partner, Punong Bayan & Araullo Company
2:00 - 2:15 Mr. Leo Malignas - Partner, SGV & Company
(Discussant)
2:15 - 2:45 Corporate Governance and Business Growth: Do They Mix?
Dr. Jaime Laya - Chairman, Emeritus
KPMG Laya Mananghaya & Co.
2:45 - 3:00 Hon. Fe Barin* - Chairman
(Discussant) Securities and Exchange Commission
3:00 - 3:15 Open Forum

TRACK 2: E-Commerce and Business Process Outsourcing
1:30 - 2:00 E-Marketing. The Saving Grace of E-Commerce
Dr. Leonardo Garcia - Dean, School Professional & Continuing Education
College of St. Benilde
2:00 - 2:15 Dr. Roberto de Vera - Director, Regional Strategies Group
(Discussant) University of Asia and the Pacific
2:15 - 2:45 Business Process Outsourcing:
An Avenue for Cost Efficiency and Optimized Service Delivery
Mr. Henry Schumacher - EVP, European Chamber of Commerce
2:45 - 3:00 Discussant
3:00 - 3:15 Open Forum
3:15 - 3:30 Coffee Break

TRACK 3: Productivity and Intellectual Property Rights
1:30 - 2:00 IPR: Are Business Still Protected?
Fr. Ranhilo Aquino, Ph.D. - Dean, Graduate School of Law
San Beda College
2:00 - 2:15 Atty. Susan Villanueva - Partner, Carpio, Villaraza and Cruz
(Discussant)
2:15 - 2:45 "Productivity Effects of Information & Communication Technology"
Dr. Gwendolyn Tecson - Professor, School of Economics
University of the Philippines
Dr. Michael Alba - Dean, College of Business and Economics
De La Salle University - Manila
2:45 - 3:00 Discussant
3:00 - 3:15 Open Forum
3:15 - 3:30 Coffee Break

CLOSING PLENARY
3:30 - 4:00 Professor Solita Monsod - School of Economics
University of the Philippines
4:00 - 4:15 Open Forum
4:15 - 4:30 Closing Remarks
Dr. Allan Bernardo - Vice-President for Academics and Research
De La Salle University
4:30 - 5:00 Distribution of Certificates
Raffles for Participants

* Speaker to be Confirmed

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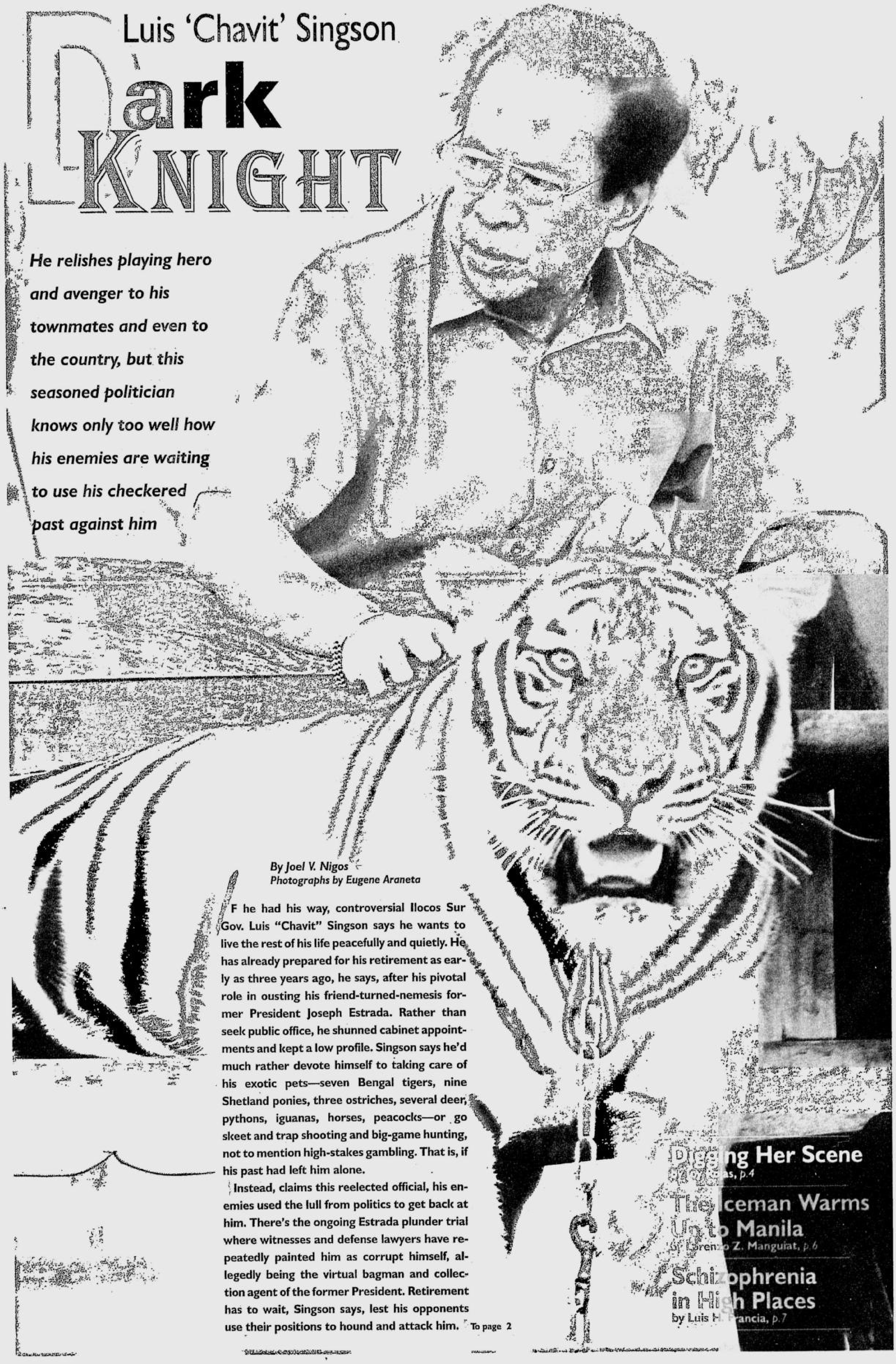
sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
October 17, 2004

Luis 'Chavit' Singson

Dark KNIGHT

He relishes playing hero and avenger to his townmates and even to the country, but this seasoned politician knows only too well how his enemies are waiting to use his checkered past against him



By Joel V. Nigos
Photographs by Eugene Araneta

IF he had his way, controversial Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson says he wants to live the rest of his life peacefully and quietly. He has already prepared for his retirement as early as three years ago, he says, after his pivotal role in ousting his friend-turned-nemesis former President Joseph Estrada. Rather than seek public office, he shunned cabinet appointments and kept a low profile. Singson says he'd much rather devote himself to taking care of his exotic pets—seven Bengal tigers, nine Shetland ponies, three ostriches, several deer, pythons, iguanas, horses, peacocks—or go skeet and trap shooting and big-game hunting, not to mention high-stakes gambling. That is, if his past had left him alone.

Instead, claims this reelected official, his enemies used the lull from politics to get back at him. There's the ongoing Estrada plunder trial where witnesses and defense lawyers have repeatedly painted him as corrupt himself, allegedly being the virtual bagman and collection agent of the former President. Retirement has to wait, Singson says, lest his opponents use their positions to hound and attack him.

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Digging Her Scene
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by Lorenzo Z. Manguiat, *p.6*

Schizophrenia in High Places
by Luis H. Francia, *p.7*

Luis ...*from page 1*

Baluarte, Singson's sprawling 70-hectare residence in Vigan where he keeps his pet animals, is aptly named. It is the governor's stronghold, his fort, where he can be his quintessential self without fearing media exposure or political recriminations.

Today, he has just arrived from Manila via his six-seater private plane. Talking alternately on his two cell phones in his native Ilocano, the governor switches moods almost instantly. Cordial to his visitors—a noisy posse of local government officials, townsfolk, investors, architects and urban planners—he turns ballistic when asked about the ongoing Estrada plunder case.

Skirting the issue

"They're hitting me again at the Sandiganbayan," he fumes in Filipino. They're skirting the issue, he adds. "*Ang linaw-linaw ng ebidensiya laban kay* Erap. (The evidence against Erap is strong). So what they're doing is destroy my credibility. *Gusto nilang sirain ako sa mata ng publiko* (They want to destroy me in the eyes of the public)."

That morning, Erap's defense lawyers presented witnesses who accused Singson of being a "demonstrably corrupt governor" who had unliquidated cash advances of P2.9 million during his previous term as governor. Rene Saguisag, the lead defense counsel, also claims that the Ilocos official has unliquidated cash advances totaling P800 million from 1995 to 1999. The governor denies this; he has settled all his cash advances, he says. "They can look into the records," he adds.

Singson is also being made to account for the P170 million in tobacco excise taxes that, he claims, Estrada took as kickback. Saguisag had charged that the issue and Singson's alleged culpability has prompted him to do a tell-all on the former President. The P170-million kickback is one of the four predicate cases in the P4.1 billion plunder suit filed against Estrada at the Sandiganbayan.

The ambush-killing of COA auditor Agustin Chan in 2001 is also being laid at the governor's door. He counters: "*Inaamin ko hindi ako anghel pero 'di naman ako masamang tao at nag-iisip naman ako*. (I admit I'm no angel, but I'm not that evil either and I use my head). If I wanted to have Chan killed, why would I do it in my own backyard? Maybe they had him killed so they could lay the blame on me," he continues in Filipino.

But politics do make for strange bedfellows, with good friends turning into enemies overnight. Before his war with Estrada, Singson had to contend with the Crisologos, one of the longest-reigning political families in the North.

"My parents were supporters of the Crisologos, my mother being the sister of Floro," says this seasoned politician who says his entry into politics was unintentional. His father, Joseling, was a two-term mayor of Vigan, an engineer who was also into construction. His mother meanwhile was involved in the production of Virginia tobacco.

He also traded tobacco, Singson says. "But the time came when the Crisologos wanted to control the tobacco trade. They monopolized the buying and brought down the price," he recounts in Filipino. They were in power and people had no choice but sell to them, he claims. "There were checkpoints, and no trucks could bring out tobacco for sale nor could buyers come in. Even the Marcoses could not stop the practice."

Instant hero

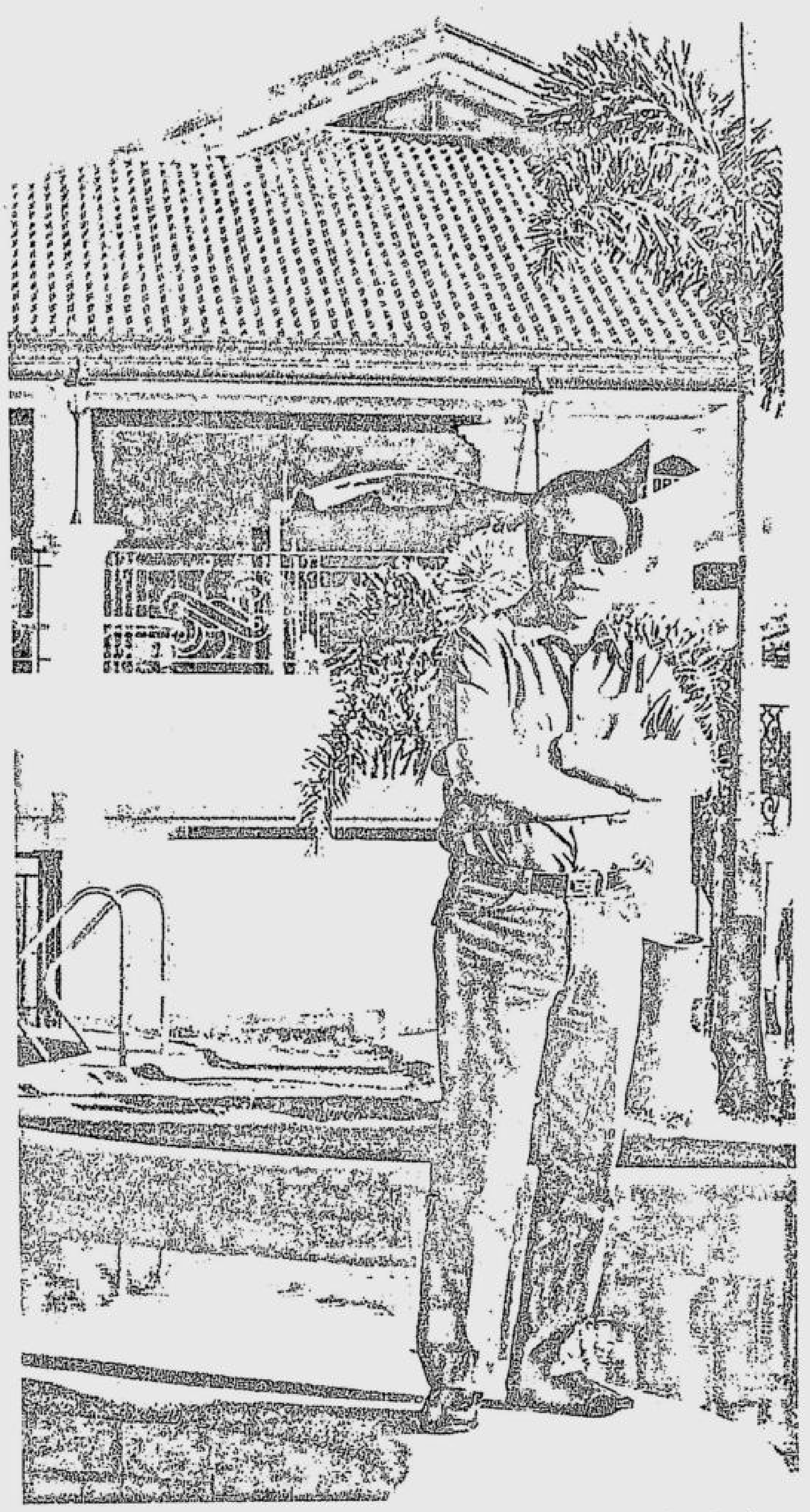
Tired of the abuses of the powers-that-be who also wanted to take over Vigan Electric Corp. which he owns, Singson says he decided to ram through the checkpoints with several truckloads of tobacco. His daring became the talk of the town and he was hailed as an instant hero, a liberator of his province.

"The people wanted me to challenge the Crisologos so I run against Floro for a House seat in 1969, but lost," he recounts. He ran for governor in the next election and won overwhelmingly. That started it all. "Since then, I've never lost an election," he says.

Playing hero to his province mates is a role that Singson seems to relish as he recounts his exploits with little coaxing. Once, he says, he noticed that the owner of a bus company, the old Times Transit, was constantly berating his employees. He recounts in Filipino, "He was very arrogant, the old man. He would scold his workers everyday—in English, at that. They were always complaining, so I put up my own bus company and got them to work for me. Hah! The old bus owner later went bankrupt," Singson laughs.

Living in his small world and occasionally playing the poor man's avenger would have suited him fine, he says, had he not been thrust into the "*jueteng* scandal." "I told the Erap camp to leave me alone and I'd keep quiet (about the illegal numbers game)," he recounts. "But when I realized they were out to kill me, I decided to expose him. *Sabi ko sa sarili ko, buhay na ang nakataya rito, patay na kung patay* (I told myself, my life's at stake here. I'll go down fighting!"

The rest, as everyone knows, is history. Implicating Estrada in the *jueteng* scandal during his impeachment trial for corruption ultimately led to the former President's ouster through People Power II in January, 2001.



Standing tall in Baluarte, his stronghold in Vigan

Alleged vices

His heroics have hardly silenced the buzz about the governor's alleged profligate ways, however. Wine, women and mahjong are some of the vices that detractors have attached to him. But Singson says he's given them up. Except for red wine, he has stopped drinking, the governor claims, because he's had a heart bypass operation.

He remains mum about his women. "*Wala akong hilig diyan* (I'm not into that)," is all he would say, bursting into laughter. Mention the names of some women being linked to him and the governor will only grin, neither confirming nor denying anything. Sources maintain, however, that one thing that Singson shares with former bosom pal Estrada is a passion for women.

While he's discreet about his women, Singson's eyes light up when asked about his mahjong sessions and his winnings. He's been to Las Vegas, Macau and Montecarlo, he says, and other places in the world where there's high-stakes gambling.

"I get VIP treatment in Las Vegas. *Pagdating ko sa* hotel *binibigyan agad ako ng* $10,000 *kapalit ng* airfare *ko* (When I get to my hotel, they immediately give me $10,000 to make up for the airfare I spent)," Singson says proudly. He used to go to Las Vegas often, he adds, but has trimmed that down to once or twice a year. He recounts that during Estrada's time in Malacañang, he used to win up to P40 million a night playing mahjong with the former President and cronies Mark Jimenez and William Gatchalian. His biggest winning so far was in Monte Carlo, where Singson says he's won $1 million.

The smile of Lady Luck

Lady Luck apparently smiles at Singson even beyond the gaming tables. He has survived seven actual ambushes, the governor claims. This does not include, he says, those which were planned but were not carried out. The most famous one, of course, was that in October 2001, when a traffic patrol stopped his bulletproof car in downtown Manila for an alleged traffic violation. Locking his doors, Singson called for help from his legislator friends who were playing at the nearby casino. Heavily escorted, he made his way to a police precinct where he called for an impromptu press conference and made what became known as the "lord of all *jueteng* lords exposé" against Estrada.

There's no secret, no amulet, behind his surviving all those assassination attempts, he claims. "*Masamang damo yata tayo, ayaw ako tanggapin* (I guess I'm a bad weed that can't be rooted out that easily)," he laughs. It's just luck, he adds. "Once in Cabugao (Ilocos Sur), someone threw a hand grenade at me. Eleven people near me perished, but I survived!" He doesn't believe in amulets, Singson says, but he's keeping one in his pocket—just to be sure.

God, he acknowledges, has been "very very good to me." But while he used to read the Bible, Singson says that more than karma, he believes in destiny, not to mention careful planning. Knowing he has made a lot of enemies in his more than 30 years in politics and in his ongoing fight with the Estrada camp, the Ilocos kingpin admits that security is a prime concern for him. "I always have to watch my back," he confesses. He has six close-in security aides, members of the Presidential Security Group provided by Malacañang.

Ready for retirement

It's been an exciting life, but he's ready to retire once his term ends in 2007, Singson says. "*Naniniwala kasi ako na ang buhay, sandali lang*. (Life's too short). I want to enjoy life and have the freedom to go anywhere without watchful eyes following my every move."

Besides, he adds, he has had enough frustration with politics. "In politics, you cannot really please everybody. When you give in to someone, the others will get mad at you. And you need to always guard your back," says Singson.

"I'd rather stay with my pets," he adds. "I feel more relaxed with them. And even when I know there's always danger when I loll around with my tigers, at least I know that I'm dealing with animals. *Sa pulitika kasi di ko na alam kung sino ang hayop at sino ang tao* (In politics, it's hard to tell which one is man or beast)."

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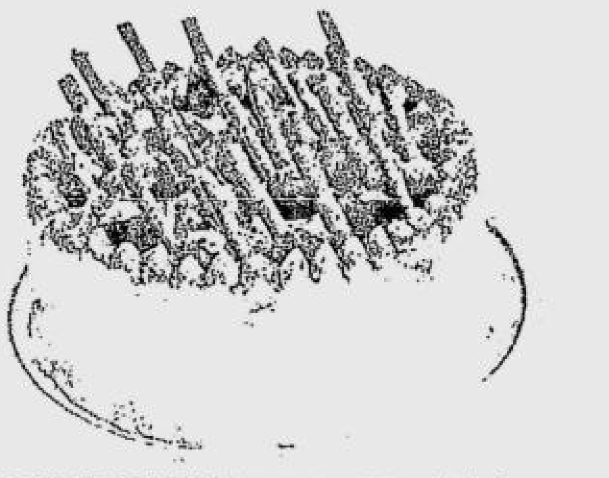


POPULAR DESSERT Holiday Inn Galleria Manila features Black Forest, Germany's famous dessert cake, this month. Named after the region in Southern Germany where it originated, Black Forest is a popular dessert or afternoon snack best taken with coffee or tea. For inquiries and orders, call 633-7111 loc. 7416. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Musa Kang Pinangarap Gayumahin

Musa kang pinangarap gayumahin
Ng panulat kong bihag
sa alikabok at hangin.

Sa tindi ng iyong kariktan
Pati kaluluwa ko'y nagdurugo,
May kurus na pasan.

Kung sa bagay, manlilikha akong
Sa iyo'y alipin. Kahit walang tanikala
Mga kamay at paa.

Mangilang ulit na kitang
Sinubukang palayain sa gunita
Subalit rehas ang sariling dila.

Malayo na sana ang narating
Ng aking paglalakbay kasama ka
Pero lagi mo akong iniiwan na mag-Isa.

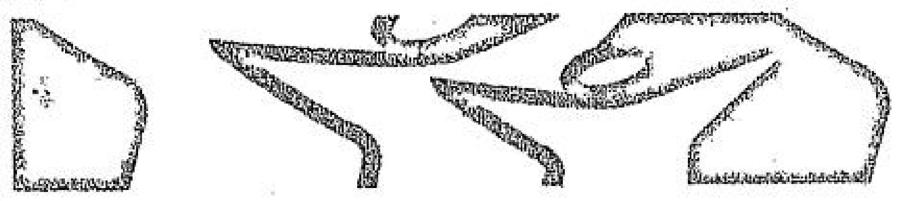
Ay! Kung maaari lang mabuhay
Ng isang libo't isang taon.
Wala akong tatalikuran ni isang hamon!

Mailap ka mang tulad ng alaala
O guniguning marupok
At sentido'y bihirang mapasok.

Musa ka man ng kung sinong makata,
Di ligtas sa pagkapuwing
ang iyong mga mata!

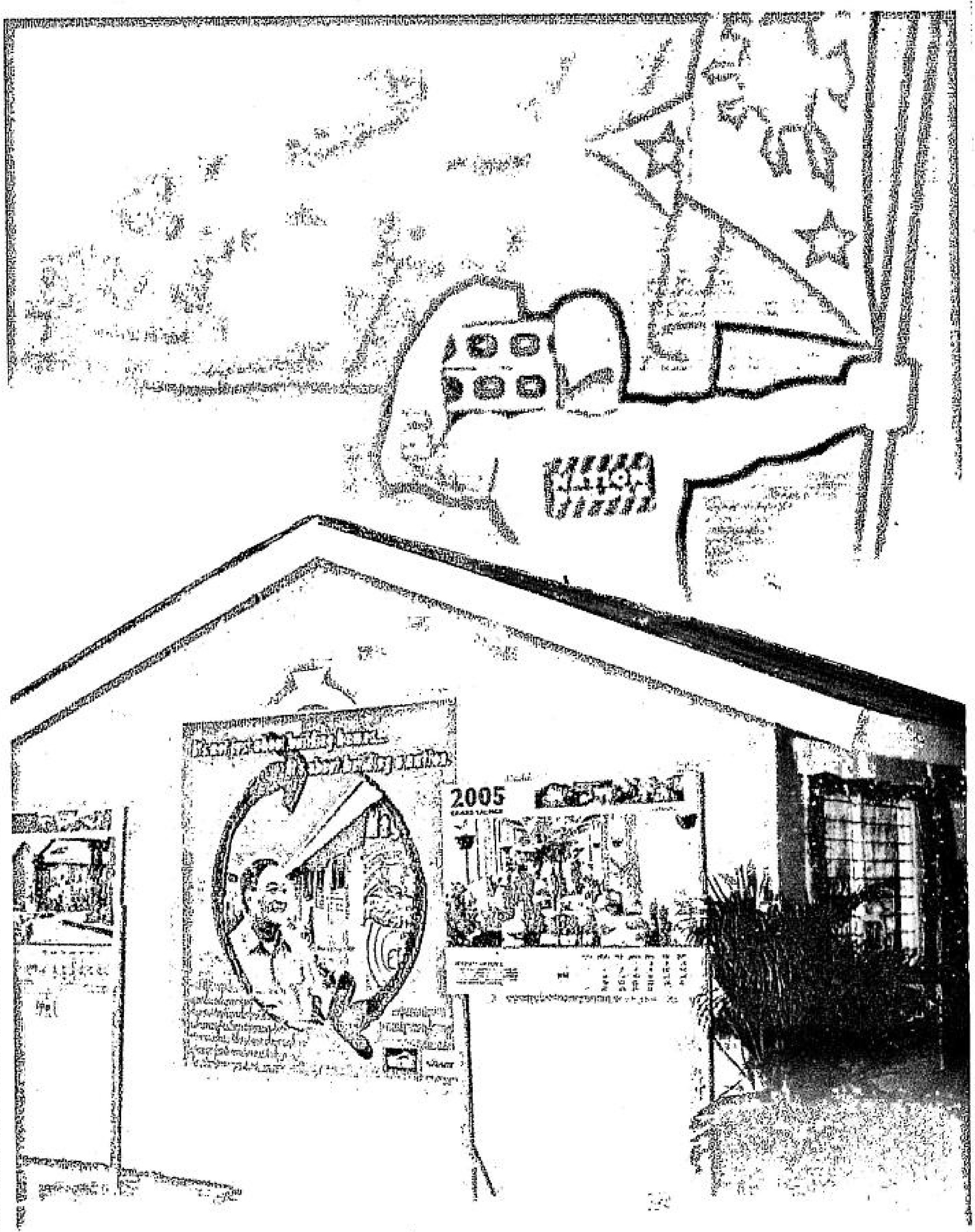
Rommel B. Rodriguez

ERRATUM
In the story, "Family Values" by Dennis M. Arroyo **(SIM, October 3, 2004)**, the surname of one of the featured families was misspelled. The Villamin family is actually the VILLAMIL family. SIM and the author regret the error



President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

Vice-President Noli De Castro with DSWD Secretary Dinky Soliman



[illegible] Head of [illegible] with Tony Me[illegible]

[illegible] of PLDT and SMART [illegible] GK Expo

GK777 MOVING FORWARD

Fr. Ben Nebres of Ateneo University

Last year Gawad Kalinga launched GK777, an ambitious and daring commitment to build 700,000 homes in 7,000 communities in 7 years. One year has passed and Gawad Kalinga through its resolute commitment remains on track towards this monumental goal.

GK777's Bawat Pilipino Bayani celebrates that commitment.

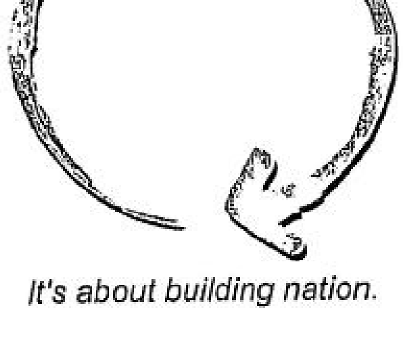
The GK777: Bawat Pilipino Bayani Expo and Concert showcased the tremendous support Gawad Kalinga has gathered from various sectors of society, symbolized by the champions of Gawad Kalinga. Notably, her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President Cory Aquino, Fr. Ben Nebres of Ateneo, Sen. Manuel Villar, Fast Food Industry George Yang, Bishop Precioso Cantillas, and Corporate Giant Manny Pangilinan were handpicked as champions of the GK cause, given their dedication, commitment and support. Through seven clusters of seven actual GK homes, the strategic partnership of Gawad Kalinga with local and national government, corporations, schools and universities and other multi-sectoral groups was given shape for the public to see.

Months of planning and hard work were evident in the two-day event that kicked off with a grand parade. Workshops and symposia followed to highlight how every Filipino can be part of the GK movement towards nation building. There were live bands providing a musical backdrop to the event, stage plays and cocktails to welcome the distinguished guests of the night. As the finale, the GK 777 concert wowed the crowd with the performances of Kuh Ledesma, the Apo Hiking Society, Martin Nievera and Mr Pure Energy himself, Gary Valenciano. Tony Meloto, Executive Director of Gawad Kalinga, delivered an impassioned thank you speech in honor of all the volunteers and the partners who were there through and through. He rallied them to stay true to the program's mission and continue supporting its realization in the next six years.

All throughout, SMART Communications was present in support of the event, witnessing this colossal celebration of humanity in action.

[illegible] with GK supporters

It's not just about building homes...

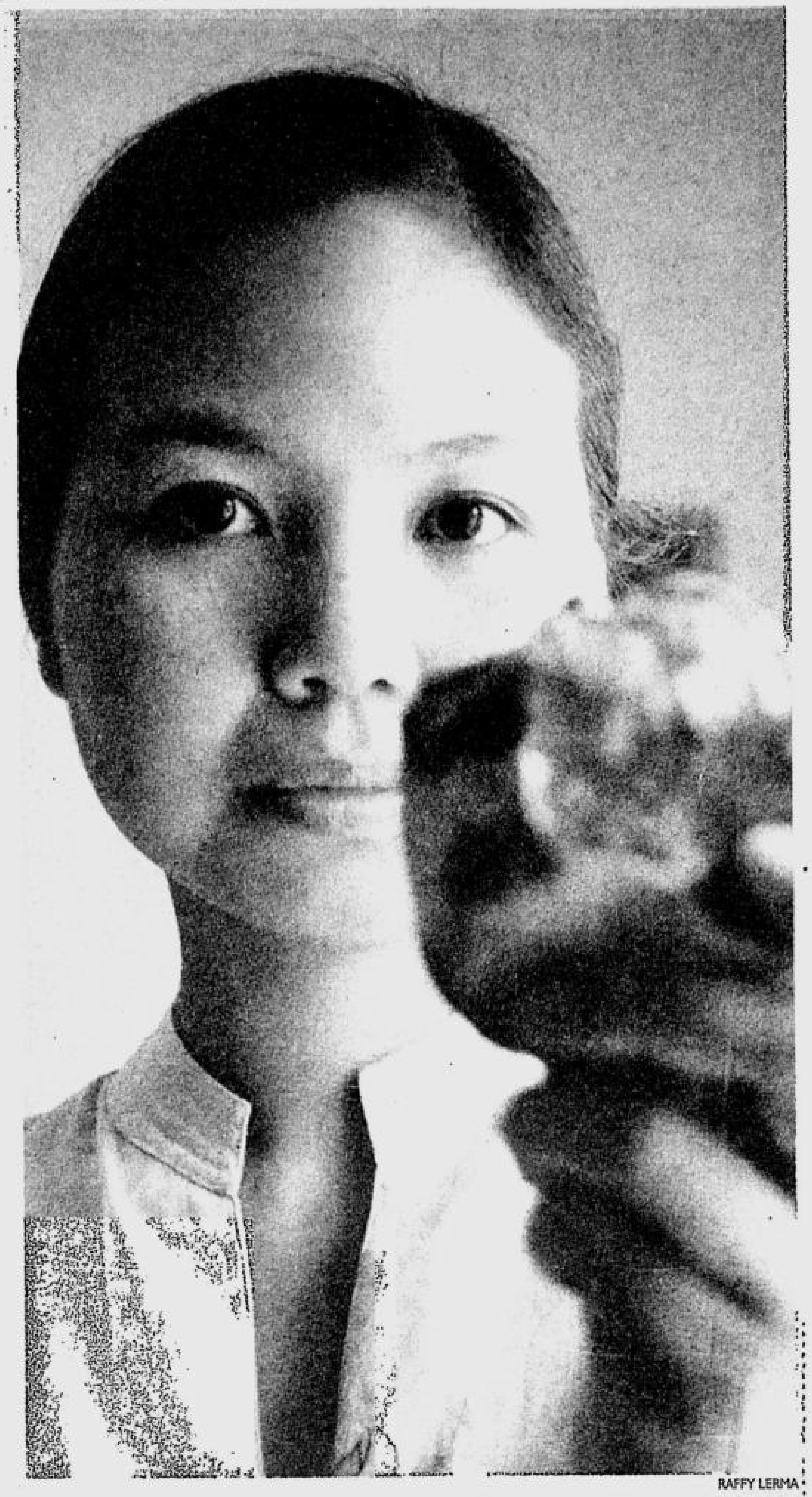


It's about building nation.

Young Achievers

By Joy Rojas

Digging Her Scene


RAFFY LERMA

Young archeologist Marie Grace Faylona helps piece Philippine history together through intrepid excavations that sometimes turn up skeletal remains

ALTHOUGH Marie Grace Pamela Faylona doesn't look like the type to get her hands dirty, this self-confessed "cowboy" could actually put "Fear Factor" contestants and "Survivor" castaways to shame. Now on the fifth year of her master's degree in Archeology at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, the 27-year-old student and researcher has been known to rough it in the roughest of ways. She once lived in a camp with no water, save for torrential rains that lasted a week, and literally stumbled upon the bones of a human foot on her first excavation in Cagayan Valley. "Wow!" she swoons, her face beaming with excitement over the life-changing experience. "I wasn't afraid, but it was then that I realized our ancestors did exist and that this is the real thing."

Up until then, Faylona assumed Archeology—that is, the study of our history through material remains—was a discipline encountered only in works of fiction ("The Alchemist") and the silver screen ("The Mummy"). Then a friend told her about the archeology program offered in UP. Faylona, who studied agribusiness management in UP Los Baños so she could help develop the family's property in Laguna, didn't have to think twice. "In high school, they talked about medicine, law and all these other popular courses," she says. "Well, I'm done with my undergrad degree, so I thought it was time to do something I wanted."

Passion for old stuff

But while Archeology allowed her to travel extensively and delve deeply into her passion for "history, culture and old stuff," it too came with a great responsibility. Faylona, who has joined team expeditions in Batanes, Palawan, Mindoro, and Nueva Ecija, is careful to present herself well before wary and resistant townsfolk. "They think we're treasure hunters looking for Yamashita gold," she says with a smile. "But we always pay courtesy calls to the local government and invite people to visit our sites and ask all the questions they want. What's nice is that after a month of living in the community, the people who were suspicious of us at the start are now sharing stories about what they learned from our excavation."

Ironically, unearthed artifacts yield mixed feelings. "On the one hand, you're excited because you become a part of the history you've uncovered," says Faylona, who chanced upon an eerie burial ground in Batanes (as in large jars, piled mouth-to-mouth, containing human remains) and traces of an ancient coral fence beneath a church in her mother's native Mindoro. "On the other hand, *parang naaawa ka*, especially if it's a burial site and I disturb it."

Excavation chronicles

For now, found objects are sent to the National Museum for study and safekeeping, but a barangay can file a memorandum of agreement should it wish to keep the artifact in its possession. Faylona, however, believes that the rules "should be in black and white or else there will be conflict and factions." As such, she and other members of the Katipunan ng Archeologists ng Pilipinas are involved in the drafting of a landmark code of ethics. Meanwhile, Test Pit, a newspaper-magazine she founded two years ago, is her way of turning the little-known subject into popular science through youth-oriented chronicles of excavations and updates on the growing archeology community.

Though her efforts have not gone unrewarded, Faylona, one of 10 young women achievers recognized recently with a Dove Bukod Tanging Filipina award, insists that she has just skimmed the surface of her chosen field. "Archeologically speaking, *virgin pa ang* Pilipinas, there's still so much to discover and explore," says Faylona, whose Bukod Tanging Filipina beneficiaries are the Wilhelm G. Solheim II Foundation and the Mangyan Heritage Center. "*Kaya lang*, there's not enough people and the sites are often looted by treasure hunters, so our artifacts end up elsewhere."

Mall frustration

That people frequent malls rather than museums is also a frustration. "If you could only spend a day in a museum, you'll have a sense of what it feels like to be a Filipino. And that's something to be proud about."

The younger of two girls, Faylona apparently takes after her mother, an agriculturist who interviewed farmers about their crops and feed. "I've seen pictures of her in her travels and she looks very happy." Faylona herself experiences a freedom like no other whenever she's about to embark on an out-of-town excavation—a fact well-meaning family and friends have yet to understand. "*Ano ba ng nakain nito at napunta sa* Archeology? *Hindi ka ba naaalikabok?*" (What did you eat that you ended up in archeology? Doesn't the dust bother you?) Faylona simply laughs off the questions. "When they see that I come home with so many stories, they know that I'm happy."

Perhaps it's because, in the course of unearthing clues into our country's colorful history and culture, her soul is unraveled in the process. "Archeology has made me patient, focused on my work and more aware of my surroundings," she reflects. "I've also become more religious. Even though they say science and faith do not mix, I think they go hand in hand. For me, our findings affirm the presence of God." ◼

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote

Why Be in a Hurry?

If this moment is the moment of grace, if this hour is the hour of change, if this day is the day of salvation, what need is there to hurry to the next moment?

WE ARE all people in a hurry. We are forever meeting deadlines, following schedules and keeping busy running here and there, meeting people, writing letters, catching the bus, and being caught by a dozen other things "before the time is up." We are enslaved not so much by power and wealth but by time.

Everybody is under pressure doing this and that, rushing here and there, pushing buttons and making everything instant—instant coffee, instant marriage, instant fame, instant wealth, even instant death. And yet everybody looks terribly bored. And so, bored people keep inventing toys and entertainment gimmicks all the time to beat their boredom. But the more they busy themselves doing this, the more bored they become. They say to themselves: "There's no use! Whatever I do or say makes no difference after all. The world goes on just the same, and I remain the same. So what's the use?" This is called fatalism.

Fatalism is surrender to the meaninglessness of life. Fatalism is seeing nothing of value in the things we do and in the events that happen to us. Fatalism is seeing time as opaque time; seeing nothing beyond the here and the now. Opaque time is time merely as chronos, a mere succession of incidents and accidents over which we have no control.

The opposite of opaque time is transparent time. Transparent time is not mere *chronos* but *kairos*. *Kairos* means this-moment-as-the-golden-moment-for-me. *Kairos* means this time as the right time for me to be the best I could ever be. *Kairos* means this hour as the hour I am waiting for. *Kairos* means this day as the first and the greatest day of the rest of my life. This is transparent time. Transparent, because I can see through the mere succession of events a vision of eternity. I can see in every event of life, no matter how dark—like war, corruption, sickness, injustice, poverty—a possibility of becoming the right moment for change.

Therefore, if this moment is the moment of grace, if this hour is the hour of change, if this day is the day of salvation, what need is there to hurry to the next moment? What need is there to catch the next hour and to rush to the next day as if the next hour and the next day are more important than this hour and this day? Can I not see in this hour and this day the beginning of God's Kingdom? Can I not see through the shadows and tears of this moment the shining face of a victorious Christ inviting me, calling me to transform this moment and every moment into moments of triumph?

If therefore every moment and every hour contains in itself an invitation to change and grow, how can I get bored? How can I get bored in my work if I make my time transparent? How can I get bored in my career if I know how to linger in every moment, and say, "This is the moment, this is the hour for me to begin to live!" If all our time is transparent time, how can we ever grow old? ◼

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

HOW OLD IS YOUR HEART?

A 26-year old can have a heart age of a 40-year old, while a 59-year old can have a heart age of someone half his age. Simply put, young doesn't always necessarily equate to being healthy.

To find out if you have a heart older than you actually are, check those which apply to you:

☐ **FAMILY HISTORY** - Those who have male relatives below 55 and female family members below 65 who have had heart attacks are genetically susceptible to strokes or coronary heart diseases.

☐ **BLOOD PRESSURE** - 140/80 mmHg or above confirms hypertension.

☐ **SMOKING**

☐ **DIABETES** - Those who are afflicted with types I and II diabetes for 15 years or more have increased cardiac risk.

☐ **CHOLESTEROL** - A reading of 200mg/dL (6.2 mmol/L) or above is a dangerously high level.

☐ **LIFESTYLE** - Sedentary individuals are more prone to high blood pressure, high cholesterol and type II diabetes.

A check on any of the above means that your heart is at risk of being older than your chronological age.

To lower the risk of premature heart aging, do the following:

EXERCISE - Follow a regular exercise program.

MENTAL RELAXATION - Take a break and manage stress levels by indulging in relaxing activities.

TAKE VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS - Vitamin E is a powerful antioxidant that works against free radicals which cause cell damage and contribute to cardiovascular disease. It helps in preventing hardening of the arteries which could lead to heart disease.

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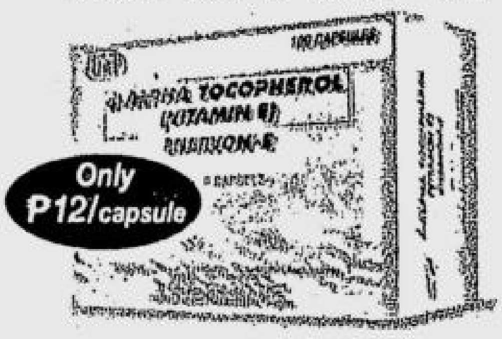

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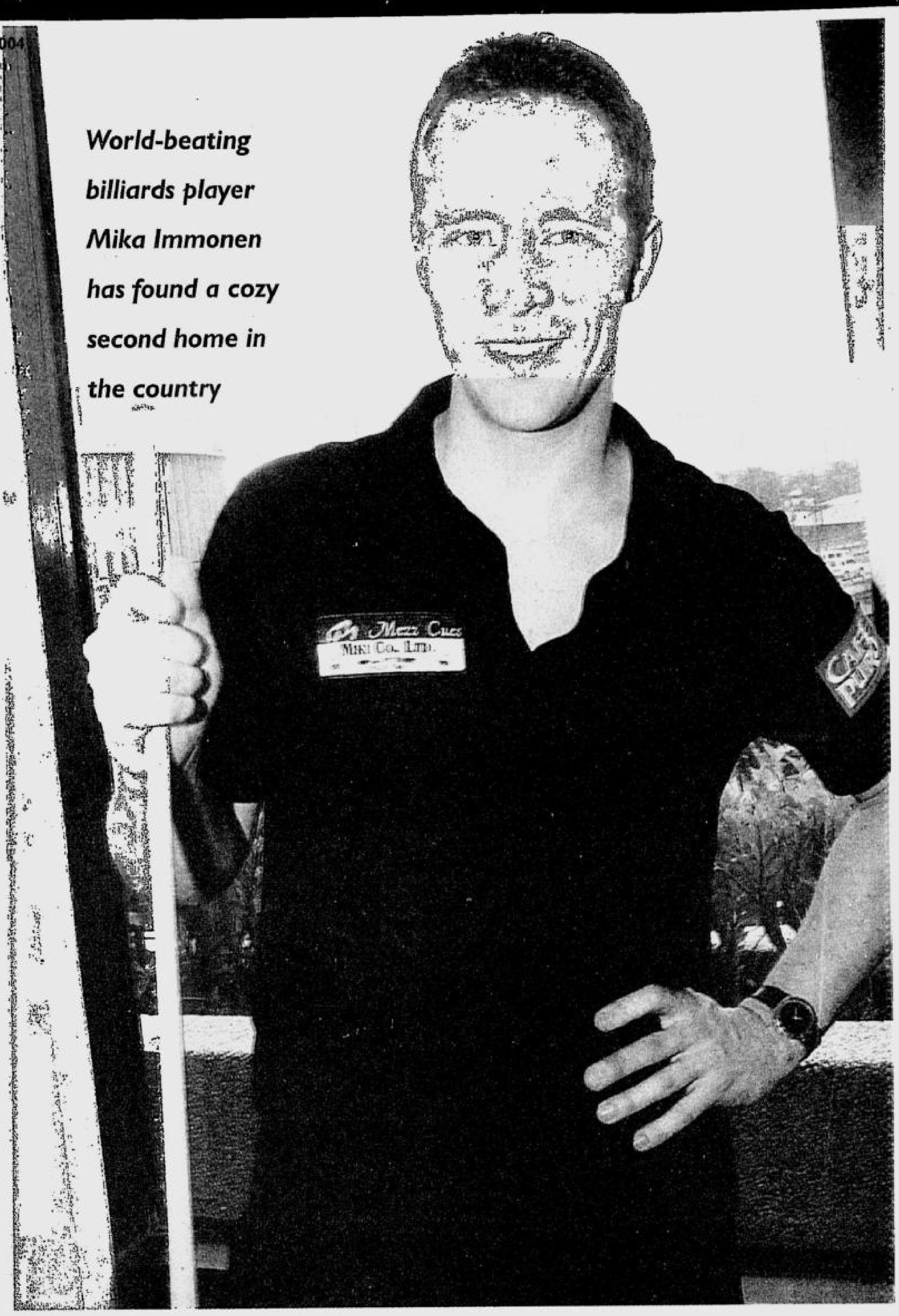
Live More

All in the Game

By Lorenzo Z. Manguiat
Photographs by August dela Cruz

The Iceman Warms Up to Manila



World-beating billiards player Mika Immonen has found a cozy second home in the country

COOL, focused and possessing nerves of steel. These are just some of the characteristics that earned pool player Mika Immonen the title "The Iceman."

Frigid-sounding as his monicker may be, the Finland native quickly warmed up to the Philippines. While his initial visits to the country may have been memorable for him socially, Immonen's performances on the pool table were completely forgettable.

"My first time in the Philippines was the summer of 2002, and the first couple of times I came here I didn't do too well at all. I think I was partying too much. I was a little off," he admits. "I was just overwhelmed with how well I was known here. The hospitality of the people and their outgoing nature, the whole scene was like 'wow,' so I really liked this place. I can't point out a single thing, but it was everything combined and just too much fun. I guess I couldn't focus on the game."

Nevertheless, things quickly changed for the Iceman on his third visit.

"The third time for the LG Flatron Challenge, I was determined. This time I was just going to focus on the game. If I was going to party, I'd party after the game," he recalls. True to his word, the Iceman froze the opposition, including Pinoy legend Efren "Bata" Reyes in the finals, to bag his first tournament in the Philippines in December 2002.

A month off

Immonen rewarded himself a few months later as he took a month off pool and traveled around the country for five weeks, visiting some of the best local tourist destinations such as Boracay and Baguio City in early 2003.

Proving that his first win was not a fluke, Immonen claimed his second title in a row in the country as he ruled broadcast giant ABS-CBN's inaugural On Cue Championships in July 2003.

Immonen then earned his third title in the Philippines in November of last year as he again beat Reyes in the finals of the first Café Puro 9 Ball Open. "It was another feather in my cap, but it was weird because I hadn't played that well in other parts of the world. I guess it's the good environment that makes it very motivating and inspiring for me to play. People like pool so much here, you have fun and try to show something they came to watch," he says.

Immonen has also made a lot of friends in the country. "Filipinos are more outgoing that Finnish people, but deep down they are similar. The weather is better here and I was able to adjust easily—and it doesn't hurt that the girls are pretty," acknowledges the 31-year old bachelor.

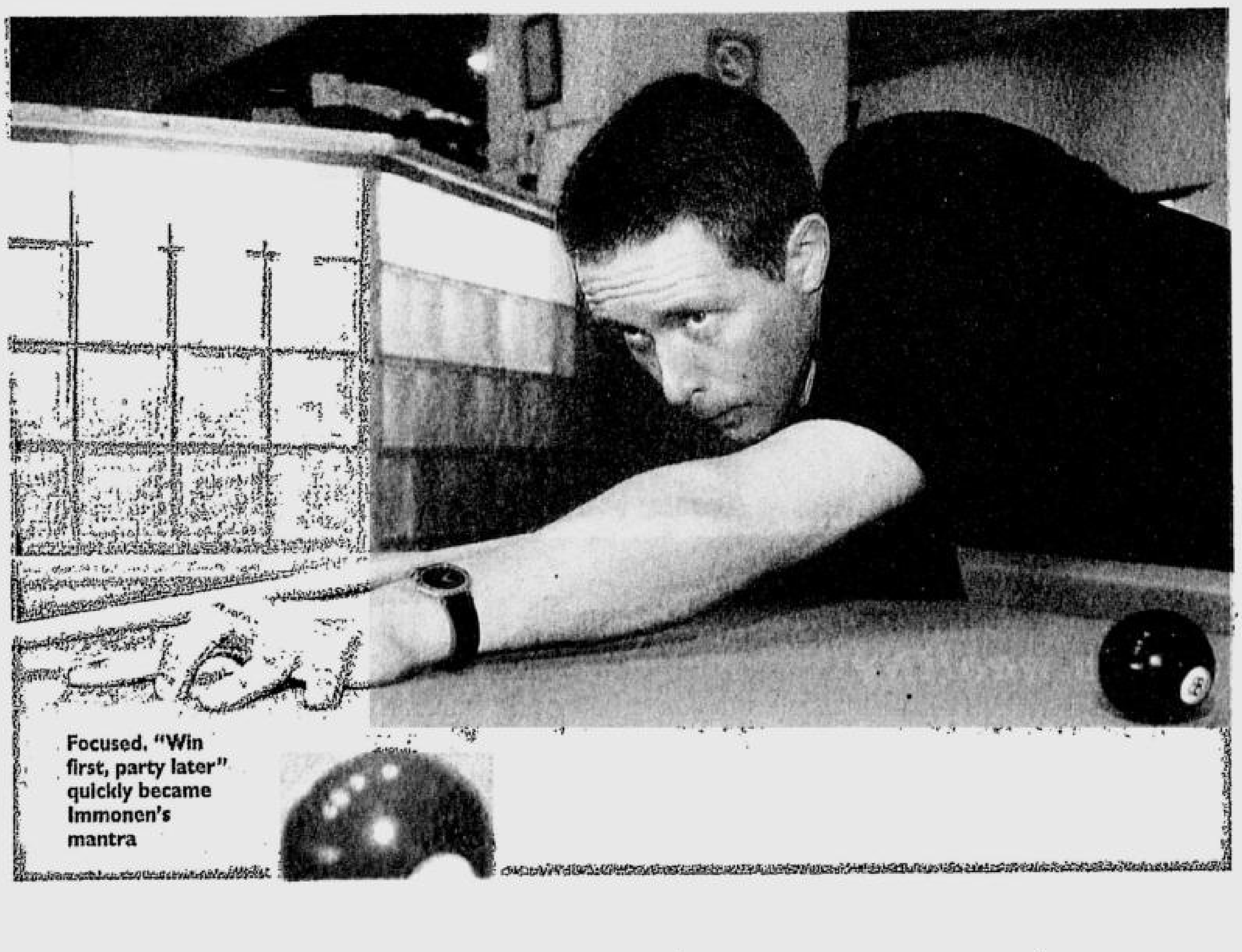
Focused on winning

Immonen revealed that he would eventually like to settle down, but realized that it would be hard because his playing career involves too much traveling. In the meantime, he is focused on playing and winning.

"I feel fortunate to do what I like and make a living out of it," says Immonen. It's hard to imagine how far pool has taken Immonen since he first picked up a cue stick in his hometown of Helsinki when he was 15. He even fondly remembers his first tournament win.

"I turned 16 quickly after I started and won my first tournament before Christmas. The funny thing was, the top prize in the competition was ham, which is a very traditional Christmas gift in Finland. It was huge, around eight kilos," he recounts. "I won the tournament and literally brought home the bacon."

From dominating the local front, Immonen eventually became the national champion and made his mark in Europe. However, he still longed for more challenges. "I wanted to explore more, but I still stayed in Europe from 1992 to 1996. It was only in 1996 that I went for the first time to the States to check out the scene over there and gain good experience. Even though I lost often, I had a good idea. I want to see what the game was like in the States, just to have a good picture, and I realized that the standard in America was really high. There were a lot of good players you never even know who could kick your butt," bares Immonen.



Focused. "Win first, party later" quickly became Immonen's mantra

Drastic measures

It was a struggle for Immonen during his first few years in the States, and in 1998 he decided to do something drastic to change his fortunes. "I had to change my attitude, my mental game. I knew it was mental because my skills weren't going to disappear anyway. The fact that I had lost to guys I didn't even know really got to me so I decided to run a marathon and started training just to get a little bit of the focus off the game," he says. "The marathon was in October, but already in August I started playing billiards really good, I placed third in the US Open and I was running 30 to 40 kilometers a week. On the same day I would be playing billiards, I would have run six miles earlier, but I noticed just how much the physical and mental came together and realized how I could use it to my advantage. I guess after you train hard, you have the endorphins in your body and you feel very good all day and when you play, you have positive feelings."

Immonen ended up running the marathon in Ireland under his goal of four hours, but more importantly, he started playing more consistently at the pool table, and became a tough tour player to beat.

Killer instinct

In 2001, Immonen strung up five second-place finishes before his breakthrough win in the World Pool Championship in Cardiff, Wales. "It was my biggest win and I proved that I had the killer instinct," he says. Right now, Immonen is still considered as one of the premier international pool players and currently ranks in the top 10 in the money list.

This cool fellow's career is certainly just heating up—and he's found the perfect hot spot to call a second home. In 2003 alone, Immonen visited the Philippines no less than six times. This year, it's likely that he will surpass that mark.

"I think I spend at least 200 to 250 days a year outside Finland and I've spent more time in the Philippines than any other place," he shares. "The culture is kind of soaking in and I'm learning a little bit of Tagalog. The first phrase I actually learned was *mahal ko ang Pilipinas* (I love the Philippines)."

This Week

Art

About Face 2, portraits of contemporary artists and friends by Elaine-Roberto-Navas at Finale Art Gallery, SM Megamall until Oct. 24.

Iskultura Filipino, a group exhibit of sculptures by Ton Raymundo, Ral Arogante, Primo Libatique, Arnel Borja, Roen Capule, Arvin Javier and Jun Vicaldo at the OneLuna Lifestyle Center, Eastwood City Cyber Park, Libis, QC until Oct. 24.

Phyllis Zaballero returns to a favorite visual motif-the window in her latest exhibit, **Whimsical Windows**, until Oct. 27 at Galleria Duemila, The Artwalk, 4/L, SM Megamall A. For details, call 634-3261.

Birthpains, a two-man exhibit of paintings and sculptures by Gil Bien and Freddie Gonzales at the CCP Pasilyo Vicente Manansala until Nov. 7.

“About Face 2” by Elaine Roberto-Navas, on exhibit at Finale Art File

Music

In celebration of the Spanish Festival for Culture and the Arts, one of the best Flamenco-jazz trios in the world, **Caponata Argamacho**, will perform in a series of concerts in Manila and Cebu: Oct. 20, 2 p.m. in Cebu; Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m. at RCBC Plaza in Makati, and Oct. 22, 7 p.m. at Greenbelt 3.

Arok Diwa enters its third season as its concert, **Changes**, unifies with the original concept of recognizing Benildean musical talents. Performances are scheduled on Oct. 22 and 23, 4 p.m. at the Augusto-Rosario Gonzalez Theater, 5/F, Solomon building, De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde. Tickets at P150. For inquiries, call 832-2092 or 526-7441 to 47 loc. 256.

Donna Summer returns with the album **The Journey, The Very Best of Donna Summer** featuring her unforgettable mega dance hits like "Last Dance," "Hot Stuff," "On the Radio" and "MacArthur Park." The album also features Summer's latest collaborations with writer Giorgio Moroder. The double CD is now available in music stores nationwide distributed by MCA Music Inc.

The Manila Chamber Orchestra Foundation presents **Mariel Ilusorio**, Germany-based Filipina classical pianist in a concert on Oct. 22, 7:30 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall, Equitable PCI Bank Tower I, Makati Avenue, Makati City. For tickets, call 878-4358 to 59.

Onstage

Members of the Association of Ballet Academies of the Philippines presents **An Afternoon with ABAP** in Concert at the Park today at 5 p.m. featuring More Than Dance, Vella C. Damian School of Ballet, Miriam Ballet and Steps Dance School to be held at the Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium. Admission is free.

The Developmental Advocacy of Women Volunteerism (DAWV) Foundation, Inc., an organization promoting volunteerism and social development, has recently signed an agreement with the Department of Education for its Adopt-A-School program. To raise funds for the production of materials to be used in the literacy project and seminar-workshops for its volunteers, DAWV will present the Repertory Children's Theatre musical production, **Pinocchio** on Oct. 24 at the Rep's Globe Theater in Greenbelt 1, Paseo de Roxas, Makati. For details, call 631-5071.

Food

Fuego Hotels & Properties together with the Economic & Commercial Office of the Spanish Embassy brings the **Flavors of Spain** to the new Taal Vista Hotel in Tagaytay City. "Flavors of Spain," a food festival featuring Spanish gourmet dishes, will run until Oct. 31. Try Taal Vista's version of the popular Spanish tapas complemented by the Sangria and the buffet of traditional Spanish favorites on weekends. The food festival will also be held in other Fuego-managed properties: the Pearl Farm Beach Resort in Davao on Nov. 13 to 30, Club Punta Fuego on Nov. 19 to 30 and Terrazas de Punta Fuego on Dec. 10-19. For inquiries, call Fuego Hotels at (02) 750-1999 or Taal Vista Hotel at (02) 751-3088/89 or (046) 413-1000.

Atbp

Catholic lay preacher Bo Sanchez is the main speaker at **Kerygma Live!** on Oct. 17, 2 p.m at the Ultra. His latest book "Your Past Does Not Define Your Future," will also be launched at the event. The event includes a Mass and a concert with Nyoy Volante and the Mannos, Karyll, Crisel Consunji and others. Admission is free.

Advanced Travel Writing Workshop. Learn good travel writing by exploring the works of the best in the genre with a walking tour built in to the sessions. To be held on Oct. 20 and 27, Nov. 3 and 10 at Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue across Manila Peninsula, 6-9 p.m. Workshop fee is P2,500 inclusive of handouts, walking tour and certificates. Deadline for confirmation is Oct. 19. For inquiries, call 892-1801.

There will be a **pre-Christmas CD sale** on Oct. 17, 27 to 29 at the 28/F, Raffles Corporate Center, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. The sale showcases original albums of the best pop, R&B, hiphop and jazz artists, hard to find compilation albums and various singles for as low as P20. For inquiries, call Lucille at 916-2504.

Summit School is conducting a **workshop on How Children Think: Implications in Preschool and Elementary Education** with Dr. Ma. Emma Concepcion D. Liwag on Oct. 19 and 23 at 8 a.m. to be held at Summit School, Bonifacio Global City, University Parkway, Taguig. For reservations, call 881-9032/34.

Gantimpala Theater Foundation sets audition for its season-ender productions of Nick Joaquin's "May Day Eve" and Alejandro Roces' "Kiko's Super Cock" on Oct. 19, 7 p.m. at the Rehearsal Hall of the Concert at the Park Auditorium, Luneta, Manila. It is open to male and female actors, 16-60 years old, English-speaking, with pleasing personality and stage presence. They must bring a color full-body photograph and prepare a monologue in English. During the audition, parts of the play will be read. For details, call 536-5860 and 528-0603.

Multimedia artist Joey Yorac will hold a **handbuilding pottery class** covering three sessions of three hours each on Oct. 23-25 and on Nov. 13-15 at The Serenity Healing Center in Pasig City. Participants will learn, experience and explore the different techniques of pottery making without the use of the wheel. For details, call 634-5058.

Sebastian products for as low as P350 are available at Fix Bench Salons, First Aid Salons and Piandre Salons until Oct. 31.

The Damdaming Katoliko sa Teolohiya, a Catholic theological association, is launching its first book, **Fundamentalism and Pluralism in the Church**, edited by Dennis Gonzalez, on Oct. 23, 11 a.m., at the Ariston Estrada Hall, De La Salle University Manila. The book describes some forms of fundamentalism and pluralism in contemporary Christianity and how they relate to one another. Distinguished theologians will offer reviews of the book. For inquiries, call 725-0976.

Savor “Flavors of Spain” at Taal Vista Hotel

The UP Film Institute will conduct a **Screenwriting Workshop for Teachers** in cooperation with Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinema et de Television to be held from Oct. 22 to 29 and conducted by Chris McGill—filmmaker, teacher and principal lecturer of the Victorian College of Arts in Melbourne, Australia. Workshop fee is P5,000 and is limited to 15 participants who are preferably teachers and professionals. Participants will go through scriptwriting exercises that will be subjected to incisive evaluation for the duration of the course. For details, call the UP Film Institute at 925-0286 or 926-3640.

Intro to Poetry Writing, a seminar-workshop on classical, haiku and free verse writing to be held on Oct. 23 at the Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo, Quezon City. For details, call 285-2449 or (0916) 3622406.

X-manila

On Oct. 23, there will be a **Seminar on Butterfly Farming** to create awareness on the importance of butterfly conservation to be held in Los Baños, Laguna. The seminar will also cover the how to's of butterfly farming even in the home yards, economic prospect, butterfly species, host plants and nectar foods, cages and other farming structures and facilities. For details, please call/text 0918-9407126 or 0926-3869011.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

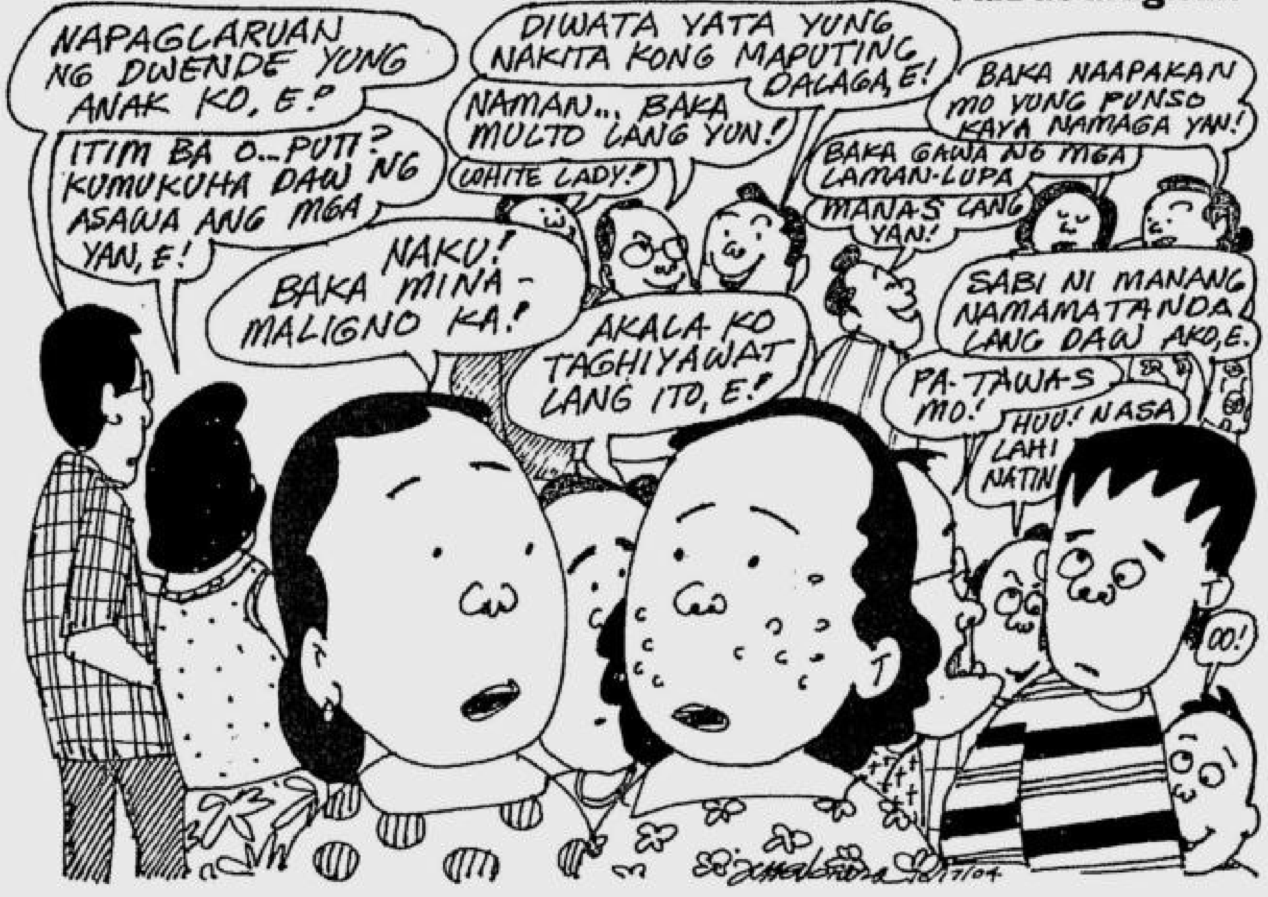
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Kababalaghan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NAKU! BAKA MINA-MALIGNO KA!
DIWATA YATA YUNG NAKITA KONG MAPUTING DALAGA, E!
NAMAN.., BAKA MULTO LANG YUN!
WHITE LADY!
AKALA KO TAGHIYAWAT LANG ITO, E!
BAKA NAAPAKAN MO YUNG PUNSO KAYA NAMAGA YAN!
BAKA GAWA NG MGA LAMAN-LUPA
MANAS LANG YAN!
SABI NI MANANG NAMAMATANDA LANG DAW AKO, E.
PA-TAWA-S MO!
HUU! NASA LAHI NATIN
OO!

The Artist Abroad

By Luis H. Francia

Schizophrenia in High Places

The Asia Society symposium provided a much-needed airing of the root causes of the Mindanao conflict. As one participant put it, it's better to spend a thousand nights arguing than to spend one day shooting

NEW YORK—Two columns ago, I discussed the post-9/11 treatment of Filipino immigrants in the United States and the increase in the incidence of their deportations even though, in this so-called global war on terror, we are supposed to be allies and friends. I also mentioned briefly how a Muslim scholar from Mindanao had been denied entry to this country at the Los Angeles International Airport. And yet he had a valid visa, and invitations to a conference of indigenous peoples at the United Nations, and to a symposium at the Asia Society. In solidarity, other Filipino participants declined to participate, forcing the cancellation of the symposium titled "Securing Peace in Mindanao: Resolving the Roots of Conflict." Denying entry to Abhoud Syed Lingga, director of the Institute of Bangsamoro Studies and chair of the Bangsamoro People's Consultative Assembly, betrayed all too clearly an official mindset rife with paranoia and xenophobia.

On the last Monday of this past September, the symposium did finally take place, with Prof. Lingga now in attendance, along with Prof. Jamail Kamlian of Mindanao State University, and Carolyn Arguillas, Davao-based journalist and one of the founders of Mindanao News (I have used Arguillas' dispatch in describing Lingga's Orwellian odyssey). This time Lingga's port of entry was New York; at the symposium, he referred lightheartedly to the May faux pas, saying that, as he had given his word to the Society about being present, he had every intention of keeping it. And did. You might think: end of story. Unfortunately not. In an indication of how security procedures here have become a nightmare if you happen to profess the wrong faith and bear the wrong kind of name (as the former rock star Cat Stevens, now Yusuf Islam, will attest to), the good scholar was denied *exit*—yes, exit—from Fortress America at San Francisco's airport on October 1. The alleged reason? Lack of clearance from the US Transportation Security Administration. (Or perhaps San Francisco's immigration officials couldn't believe a Third Worlder had passed up the opportunity to remain in the land of the brave and the free.) Yet, according to Arguillas, Lingga's visa "had contained a notation 'to attend [the] Asia Society symposium' and waiver granted by DHS (Department of Homeland Security) 8/31/04 visa approved by State Department."

Arguillas tells how, from Manila to the US, and on all subsequent US domestic flights, "Lingga took the longest during the check-in process but his boarding passes were eventually handed to him." On that return flight from San Francisco, former congressman Datu Michael Mastura, Lingga's traveling companion, decided to stay with Lingga; even though his travel documents posed no problem, he was himself detained and interrogated. Both men's suitcases were searched. After numerous calls and representations were made, the two were able to fly home the next day.

The Asia Society symposium itself was a success, providing a much-needed airing of the root causes of the Mindanao conflict—as well as a lesson on how to deal with age-old, seemingly irresolvable issues: talk, talk, and more talk. As one participant put it, it's better to spend a thousand nights arguing than to spend one day shooting. (Scheherazade, whose spellbinding tales extended her life, must have inspired this thought.) The views of the Mindanaoans made it clear that it isn't faith that is being contested; rather, as Lingga pointed out, the nature of the problem is political and social. It is about land, resources, and empowerment. Not coincidentally, as a World Bank representative stressed, five of the country's poorest provinces are in Southern Mindanao. Ayesah Abubakar, of the Young Moro Professionals and now an academic at a Malaysian university, emphasized that "we need to strengthen not just peace-keeping but peace-making." Under that rubric, a whole host of issues was discussed, from negotiations between the MILF and Manila, and the global war on terror, to the refugee question, the role of the international community in relation to Mindanao, and the perceptions and news coverage of Mindanao and the Moros.

What rendered much of the day's discussion compelling was the experience of the Moros on hand, all of whom had family members or friends or both who had either been killed, tortured, or harassed by paramilitaries or government forces. All spoke of experiencing discrimination and stereotyping as they grew up, strangers in their own land, a land that presents itself inaccurately as a monolithic cultural and religious entity.

The consensus of the gathered—academics, international aid agency and NGO representatives, former diplomats, a few interested individuals, some journalists, and a Philippine embassy official—was against militarization, for such a strategy, whether in Mindanao or the Middle East, only begets more violence. (As Arguillas reminded us, US forces are still in Mindanao, still conducting joint exercises with the Philippine military.) One of the speakers, Steven Muncy, executive director of Community and Family Services International—a nonprofit that works with displaced persons in the strife-torn areas—discussed the human cost of the Mindanao conflict, saying that at least 900,000 people had been displaced by the fighting. He repeated the slogan of a Mindanao NGO: "Arms are for hugging."

Yet, there was some naïveté as well. When a New York-based Maranao woman asked whether, in light of the continuing presence of US forces in Mindanao, a US base would be built, there was some laughter, with a United States Institute of Peace representative commenting, "Old rumors die hard." She might have been simply unaware that, under current military agreements between the two countries, the US has in fact access to the Philippine military's bases and ports, rendering the whole archipelago a virtual base for the US. Just as important, the US is allowed to erect temporary structures (with "temporary" loosely defined) on Philippine soil.

While the problem of securing and maintaining the peace in Mindanao remains to be resolved between the Moros and the overwhelmingly Christian Manila government, the United States, whether we like it or not, plays a major role. At the same time, it is itself part of the problem, due to its colonialist history in the Philippines, the presence of its soldiers on Philippine soil, and, overall, a schizophrenic foreign policy that trumpets the virtues of a pluralist democracy but reacts dismissively to age-old movements that bear legitimate grievances against central governments. Particularly under the current administration that has shown itself partial to evangelical Christian movements, the US worldview continues to be burdened, in a way reminiscent of the sword and the cross, by the implicit belief in Via Americana as the best option for the rest of the globe, even if it means spreading it by the gun—an approach that foments rather than discourages violence, and abets tragedy when it can be avoided. Q

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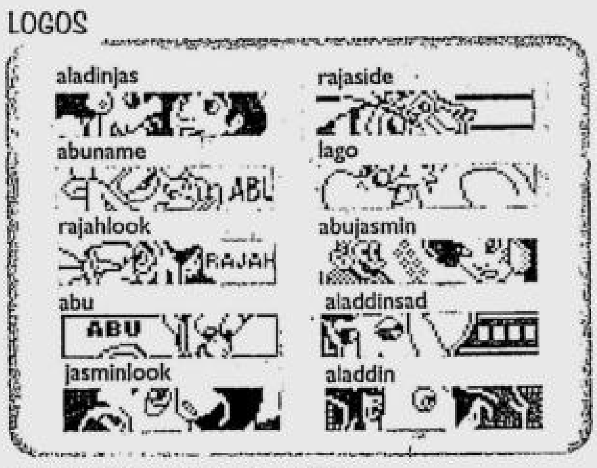
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